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# WEEKLY PEOPLE

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## FLASHES

### LIGHTING UP HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

**Anarcho-Syndicalist Base of Labor Movement—A Test of J. G. Stokes's Correct Ethics—"Act of God" Elastic Phrase Hugged by Capitalist Concern.**

It was noticed that not a blush suffused the cheeks of Albert I., the present King of Belgium, who on taking the oath of office, eulogized the deceased Leopold as the carrier of a "policy of humanity and progress in the Congo."

There is much humor in the assurance given by the London despatches that the decision of the House of Lords, acting as the highest Appellate Court of the land and pronouncing illegal a Union's assessment of its members for the payment of salaries to labor members of Parliament, "is a purely legal, and not a political decision." The humorist who gives the assurance seems to mistrust the humorous power of his assurance. So as to make sure that his assurance cause a loud laugh he adds: "The decision of the House of Lords is equivalent to a decision by the United States Supreme Court"—hence, of course, utterly non-political, and purely legal.

In the world of Nature, whatever the climate, the same laws are seen at work and producing essentially the same results with variations only. So also in the world of the Labor Movement. In France, Anarcho-Syndicalism starts a paper, "Terre Libre," under the auspices of a French monarchist paper, "L'Action Francaise," pronounces itself "a non-political paper," and assaults the French political party of Socialism. Here in the United States and in far-away St. Paul, Anarcho-Syndicalism is seen at the same capers—while claiming to be non-political, in words and deeds it is mainly anti-S. L. P.; while claiming to be opposed to capitalism it aids the same by a campaign, stated to be against "Employment Agencies," but conducted against the windows of the small employment agencies, which are a gravel in the shoes of the large and truly capitalist ones, while carefully leaving the windows and offices of the large concerns untouched. Anarchy is born of ignorance and breeds corruption—everywhere.

Unimpeachable is the ethical standard raised by Mr. J. G. Phelps Stokes of the Socialist party in the correspondence, between himself and his fellow member Mr. Hillquit, publication of which Mr. Stokes insisted upon in "The Call" of the 19th of December, despite Mr. Hillquit's habitual efforts to double and twist, and shrink from the light, and in which Mr. Stokes says: "I do not respect that standard of alleged 'ethics' and 'honor' that would justify any election official, or candidate for election, in keeping or desiring to keep, from his constituents any of his views or utterances or actions dealing exclusively with party affairs."

This is correct. But how does Mr. Stokes reconcile his standard with his practice, as appears in the same correspondence from his trusted relations with Mr. Frank Bohn?

While Mr. Bohn was a candidate for last year's State convention of the Socialist Labor Party to nominate State candidates for election, the gentleman desired "to keep and succeeded in keeping from his constituents his views" that the S. L. P. should not nominate candidates that year. By the suppression of these extraordinary views from his constituents, and communicating only to his intimates his purpose to act upon those views, if elected, he deceived the members of Section New York and secured his election. An out-of-town comrade to whom Mr. Bohn communicated his purpose, and who, acting upon the same correct standard of honor and of ethics that have since compelled Mr. Walling to publish the Simons letter to Walling, and have now caused Mr. Stokes to publish Mr. Hillquit's correspondence with him, promptly notified the S. L. P. officials in this city of Mr. Bohn's conduct, by forwarding Mr. Bohn's autograph letter to them. The consequence was that Mr. Bohn was, by a unanimous vote of the convention, denied a seat, and the gentleman thereupon, finding the S. L. P. too inhospitable for his standard of "honor" and "ethics" quickly got out of the S. L. P., and joined the S. P. The

facts in the case were all made officially public.

If the standard of alleged "ethics" and "honor" that would justify a candidate for election in keeping, or desiring to keep, from his constituents his views, or utterances or actions dealing exclusively with party affairs, does not deserve respect, as surely it does not, is the standard that condones such action any worthier?

Australia—that next-door neighbor to the Workman's Paradise—has at last arrived at the point it long was headed for. It has just made it a criminal offence, punishable by fine and imprisonment, for a workman to strike at any time, for any cause whatsoever. The Greek demi-god who was sentenced to have a vulture perpetually eating at his entrails was chained with manacles of bronze and iron. The Australian workman, in like circumstances, is expected to lie quiet under chains of paper.

Where does "the act of God" end, and the act of man begin? The New York Court of Appeals nonsuited a plaintiff who demanded damages from the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad for having been kept all night in the short distance between Boston and Quincy. The Road's defence was "snow storm," and the Court of Appeals held the defence good being an "act of God." If a storm can be used as a justification for a road to be kept in such a bad condition that it can be easily tied-up, then the "acts of God" can be extended to every act of negligence which the road incurs in saving expenses to raise dividends. The long and short of the theory upon which the Road is held guiltless is that the God Capital can do no harm.

Kate S. Hilliard's illustration, given in her address delivered in Salt Lake City, as published in "the issue, of what comes from private and papers in the Socialist Movement, is striking. The helplessness of the Socialist party folks in Utah when the owners of "their" paper, "The Crisis," suddenly bolted in favor of a bourgeois party, can sooner be imagined than described. A party of Socialism or Labor, which does not own its own press is a jackass with his head in a lion's mouth.

Gradually the truth about Nicaragua is coming out. The Youngstown, Pa., "Daily Democrat" reports a "distinguished member of Congress" as writing to it: "I know in a general way that New York financiers are acquiring valuable concessions in all the Central American republics. In some of these republics, including Nicaragua, so-called 'American' parties have been created. Of course the revolution in Nicaragua is being financed from some source; it would not be possible for it to exist a day without strong financial aid. I am inclined to think that a revolution is being financed in this country. An annexation to the United States would bring large returns to some one. If we could get a Congressional investigation we might be able to get at the bottom of it all." Small wonder that Secretary Knox gets very angry when inquiries are made concerning his "patriotic policy."

From the depths of his Cigar Makers' Union coffin, which, as a true Gompers Unionist, he is relishing in advance, the Chicago S. P.-man Barney Berlyn opens wide his mouth, and through the Chicago "Daily Socialist" argues: Against the Trust the economic organization of Labor is powerless; the economic organization can gain something only in those industries that have not yet reached the Trust stage; but these very gains will help the advent of the Trust. From such premises a man with brains in his head and not saw dust would conclude that there is nothing left but physical force, and that from physical force only could relief be expected. Not so Mr. Berlyn. The gentleman is not satisfied with absurd premises but he concludes from them, still more absurdly, that the only salvation lies in politics! Whether a man be a pure and simple bombist or a pure and simple ballotist, with him 2+2=Brainlessness.

Mrs. Belmont, the "philanthropic" suffragette, who has so philanthropically taken charge of the Waist Strikers, has informed the girls that they must not yet expect any strike-benefits because "it is a well known Union rule that no strike benefit is paid out until six weeks after a strike is on." The lady should post herself better upon "well known Union rules" before she speaks. There is no such Union rule as she mentions, well

The New York "Tribune" of the 21st of this month admits that the demands of the trainmen employed on the eastern railroad lines for an increase of from 5 to 40 per cent in wages "will not be received with dismay" by many of the roads; it explains why. Seeing that most of these roads are planning for a general advance in freight charges, they are only too anxious, says the "Tribune," for an "excuse, such as a demand for higher wages would furnish, to put their plan through.

This is rather frank language for a bourgeois paper to hold; and valuable is the light it throws upon some of the links in the chain of events on the economic field. Although the links lighted by the "Tribune" are not many, yet do they suggest quite clearly the links that precede and the links that follow:—

First link—instructions issued by the capitalist Colonel to his Labor-lieutenant

known or otherwise. On the contrary. Experience being that the strike that is not won within six weeks is lost, the Union rule is exactly the opposite of what she claims: strike benefits are due within two weeks at the latest.

"Success in business life depends largely on those qualities of skill and efficiency which will aid you in outstripping your competitors," declared Isaac N. Seligman, the banker, to an audience of store and office clerks. To outstrip anyone implies someone to be outstripped. According to the Seligmans, the world is to be kept a sort of eternal arena where there are always a mass of unfortunate outstrippers to be preyed upon by the more "skillful and efficient" outstrippers. Enlightened thought rejects such a gladiator-show conception of society.

The announcement made that Mr. Hearst regained control of the Independence League, an organization entitled to its column on the State official ballot, and the further announcement, made by Charles E. Gehring, the manager of Mr. Hearst's political interests, that the Hearst party will run a ticket of its own in this State next year, were both matters to be expected. The movement of which Mr. Hearst is the head is only in its beginnings. That much more will be heard of it than has been heard until now is to be seen clear as on a map.

"Oh, the waste of energy!" is the exclamation that leaps from the chest at sight of the first issue of "Solidarity," a new paper issued in New Castle, Pa., with the mistaken belief that Industrial Unionism can be promoted by cheering up the workers around New Castle with sentimental misinformation about Spokane, and by egging on the Spokane Knipperdoling with exaggerated accounts about New Castle, and the two errors woven together with theories, that, to designate them in the mildest language, are known in Europe as Anarcho-Syndicalism—a theory, which, besides being wholly unadapted to American exigencies, everywhere (as illustrated in this issue's report concerning the Anarcho-Syndicalist paper of France, which cheek-by-jowls with the monarchists) is born of an ignorance that is bound to breed corruption.

Swat! went the judicial blackjack at Galveston, Tex., on the 17th of Dec. and another Labor law joined the host of those that have gone before. This time it was the Telegraphers' Eight Hour Law which was declared invalid, on the ground that it was "in conflict with the Federal law" which permitted the railroads to work their telegraphers one hour longer. Portfolios of Labor laws should be relabeled: "Bales of Cotton Bating to Pull over Labor's Eyes."

Mayor-elect Gaynor's statement, made on the 20th of December at the Waldorf banquet given by the bar of the four counties which constitute the Greater City, that his own house in the country was entered in the night and his desk and papers ransacked a few days after he closed it three weeks ago, is a choice ingot from the quarry of modern society. The Catilinas, the Crassuses, the Antonys—and the Caesars, together, of course with their menials, are clearly enough developing and showing their fangs.

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## EIGHT LINKS

to cause the Union to demand a big increase in wages;

Second link—thrilling address, held by the Labor-lieutenant to the Union, touching upon the men's hard work, poor pay and wretched conditions, and upon the advisability of a rise in wages whereby, due the reciprocal relations between Labor and Capital, Labor, being better paid, will be able to produce so much more profits for the employer;

Third link—unanimous resolution passed by the Union for a 40 per cent. raise in wages;

Fourth link—announcement to the public by the capitalist employer that, whereas he does not believe in non-Union Labor; and whereas his Union Labor has demanded an increase of wages; and whereas his profits would be wholly swallowed up if he granted the increase without, in his turn, raising his charges; therefore the charges are raised proportionally;

### RUSSIANISM IN ARGENTINA

#### THE COUNTRY UNDER STATE OF SIEGE AND TERROR.

International Circular Issued by the Socialist Party of the Argentine Republic Sketching the Situation and Appealing for Aid.

SOCIALIST PARTY.  
Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic.  
November 19, 1909.  
To the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party.

Greeting:—The Government of this republic has just declared the whole country in the state of siege on the ground of the death of the Chief of Police Ramon Falcon, who was killed last Sunday by a bomb.

Chief of Police Falcon was the identical personage who, on May 1 of the current year, caused a massacre of the working people thereby provoking a grandiose general strike in which the Socialist party played an important role.

The state of siege is causing great injury to the Socialist and the Labor organizations. The Socialist press has been interdicted. Our daily paper the "La Vanguardia" has been closed. The Anarchist journal "La Protesta" was broken into and its machines destroyed. The Socialist headquarters have been closed and are watched by the Police. Many of our militants have been thrown into prison, and the Editors of our daily paper left yesterday.

These incidents suffice to indicate the political condition of this country. Deprived of the constitutional guarantees, our freedom and rights are at the mercy of the Government and of the secret police.

We request you to protest through your press against these barbarous punishments inflicted by Russian Argentine, and which are effected by unjustified arrests and deportation.

At present we are chained down and rendered impotent to act. But when the sixty days of the state siege shall be over, we shall have our chance of vindication.

We ask of you moral and material support in behalf of our prisoners—nearly 600 workmen and their families; in behalf of our journal "La Vanguardia," wounded to death by this blow which the Government has aimed against the Socialist and Labor organizations under the pretext of punishing "terrorism."

We await your help and solidarity.

Fraternally Yours,  
MARIO BRAVO,  
Gen'l Sec'y of the Socialist Party.

### ANARCHO SYNDICALISM

The French Article Cheek-by-Jowl with Monarchists.

[From the Stuttgart Metall Arbeiter Zeitung.]

The amalgamation of French Trades Unions and their development into Industrial Unions is progressing favorably. The Industrial Union of building trades employees, which was formed 1906, was followed by the formation of a like organization last June by the metal workers, and now the miners intend to follow the example. At the beginning of next

year the Mine Workers' and Slate Workers' Federations will meet at Albi to form an Industrial Union of mine workers.

The third faction amongst the French "syndicalists" has now also its organ. The reformists have "L'Action Ouvriere" the "revolutionaries" have "La Vie Ouvriere" and "La Voix du Peuple" and the "non-reformists" and "non-revolutionaries" have a new paper, "Terre Libre."

The latter, around which the "Anarcho-Syndicalists" of the most confused and abhorrent calibre group themselves, has what is characteristic, for its godfather the French monarchist and scandal-sheet, "L'Action Francaise."

Of course in its first number the publishers aver that the paper will be non-political, but at the same time it attacks the Socialist party, and in a roundabout manner it makes propaganda for the monarchist and anti-parliamentary sheet, "L'Action Francaise," and its policy.

It is not difficult to imagine whence the money for this newest "syndicalist" venture comes. One is only anxious to ascertain how many French workingmen, on account of lack of Socialist education, will be misled by this newest trick of their "revolutionary" leaders.

### 75 KILLED.

In Rock Island Shops at Guthrie, Okla.

Guthrie, Okla., December 24.—An explosion this afternoon blew up the Rock Island shops at Shawnee, with a loss of seventy-five lives, according to reports received here. Twenty-five of the dead are said to have been identified.

It is now stated that a locomotive exploded. The shops employ 250 men.

Rescuers, headed by railroad men and the town police, attacked the ruins with frenzied haste. Fire added to the horror. The first seven bodies were found near what was left of the engine.

Other bodies could be seen pinned under great masses of brick and metal, but they could not be reached for a time. Pitiful groans were heard coming from the mass of tangled wreckage.

### ENGLISH LORDS DECIDE AGAINST LABOR.

London, December 21.—The House of Lords to-day decided that it is illegal for trades unions to levy assessments on their members for the payment of salaries to labor members of Parliament. The case came up on an appeal of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants from a decision of the Appeals Court that it was illegal to levy political assessments. This decision, which was handed down about a year ago, created a great stir among the Socialist Laborite forces.

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants at once determined to take the case to the House of Lords, despite advice to the contrary by the "greatest friends" of trades unionists, notably Frederick Harrison, who pointed out that it was impossible for any body of lawyers to reverse the Appeals Court's decision.

A test action similar to the one brought by the Railway Servants was talked of by the Welsh Miners' Federation, who were called upon to pay \$40,000 for the support of Labor members of Parliament, among whom is Keir Hardie.

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### MORE SPEED.

Railroad Company Discharges Men Underweight.

Carbondale, Pa., December 25.—The employees of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad shops here were greatly shocked yesterday when learning of a new order issued by the company which means they must exert every ounce of flesh and blood while at their tasks. Nineteen men were discharged because they weigh less than 150 pounds. It is expected that others who are under this weight will lose their positions on the first of the year. It is said that an order has recently been issued from Albany headquarters for the discharge of all shop employees of the company who weigh less than 150 pounds, or are over forty-five years of age.

The weight limit is fixed owing to the idea that a mature man, weighing less than 150 pounds, does not possess the physical strength and endurance to permit him to do a normal day's work.

### SWEDISH TRADES UNIONS.

Hold Convention and Decide to Raise Fighting Fund—Resolutions on Political and Economic Wings of Labor Movement.

The Congress of the Swedish Trades Unions, recently held at Stockholm, decided to increase the reserve fund of the central organization from 150,000 kronen (about \$37,500), to 1,000,000 kronen (\$250,000). That fund is to be raised by the assessment, and it was left to the Executive Committee and the "Landessecretariat," when and in what amounts the assessment shall be raised. This action was taken by a vote of 378 to 68; the minority voted for a reserve fund of five millions.

In order to strengthen the international connections, the "Landessecretariat" was instructed to communicate with the central organizations of other Scandinavian countries if it is possible and advisable to enter into mutual agreements for the purpose of mutual support in greater struggles in one or the other country. In regard to agitation it was decided that in case a trade organization is unable to bear the expense of such agitation in its respective field the "Landessecretariat" shall either partly or wholly bear the expense. The secretariat was also instructed to pay special attention to the organization of the workingwomen.

The election to the "Landessecretariat" showed that the confidence of the working-class in the leaders of the national organization has in no wise been impaired. Chairman Herman Lindquist, Treasurer Ernest Soederborg, and Secretary Arvid Thorberg, were reelected without a dissenting vote.

The enemies of the labor movement expected and hoped that the Congress, on account of the last general strike, would present a picture of factionalism and disunion of the working class; and that warm opposition to the leading spirits would show itself. All these expectations and hopes of the enemy have been shattered. It seems they find only consolation in the passing of the resolutions which strikes from the by-laws of the national organization the provision that it shall actively propagate the affiliation of the trades organizations with the Social Democratic party.

But the Congress followed up this resolution with another one which states distinctly that the "oneness of the economic and political movement of labor" shall in no wise be impaired by the former resolution. The same thought is expressed in a second resolution which deals with the activity of the employees of the national organization as duties to the "Riks Dag." Hjalmar Branting, chairman of the party, writes in "Social Democrat" regarding these resolutions:

"The Congress by its resolution has stricken from its by-laws a platonic paragraph concerning the link between the party and the trade union. But through just this decision it has found opportunity to express in much stronger terms the bonds of solidarity hitherto existing between the trade union movement and the Social Democracy. All attempts to drive a wedge between them, may they emanate from bourgeois or 'Young-Socialist' sources, have been rejected determinedly and strongly."—Berlin Vorwaerts.

When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

## MINES SLAUGHTER

30,000 KILLED AND 100,000 INJURED IN THIRTY YEARS.

Secretary of Mining Congress Reports Wanton Sacrifice of Workmen's Lives in This Country—Figures Far Greater Than in Other Lands.

Washington, December 23.—When James F. Galbreath, Jr., secretary of the American Mining Congress, read his report yesterday to the sessions just opened here, he shocked all present by telling the wanton destruction of workmen's lives in the mines. The figures which he mentioned of those killed outright and wounded exceeded all belief.

Under the head of the destruction of life in the mines, Galbreath says: "Few realize the terrible conditions that prevail in the mining industry. In thirty years more than 30,000 men have been killed and 100,000 injured in the coal mines alone. In 1907 3,123 men lost their lives in the coal mines—nearly five men in every mining camp of 1,000 men. Contrast this with the one or two men killed in every thousand employed in foreign countries where they have bureaus of mines."

The mining congress is holding its sessions with the object of promoting legislation for the establishment of a national Bureau of Mines.

### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The members of the National Executive Committee are hereby notified that the next regular semi-annual session will convene at National Headquarters in New York City, on SUNDAY morning, January 2nd, 1910, at 10 o'clock sharp. State Executive Committees are hereby notified to send a copy of the credentials and pledges of their respective N. E. C. members to this office before January 1st, 1910.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary.  
New York, November 29, 1909.

### STEEL INFERNO.

Gary, Ind., destined to become the Pittsburgh of the West, not only has the best mill equipment in the world under construction, but its system of grinding labor and paying low wages has reached a perfection of which the United States Steel Corporation is alone capable.

The only plant now in operation is the huge steel rail mill, which is so well equipped that rails can be produced \$5 a ton cheaper than at any other mill in the United States. The rail mill produces \$100,000 worth of steel every twenty-four hours. It works its men twelve hours a day, seven days in the week, and on the time of the change from the day to the night shift each man works a stretch of twenty-four hours as his turn to change his night shift comes.

The rail mill is several blocks long, but the chief exhibit of the Gary plant is the five story building, a fully equipped hospital. The workers in the mill are constantly getting hurt, and the first thing that the company does is to secure the signing releases, which absolves it from any liability.

In fact, the signing of such releases has come to be known as "first aid to the injured." The company hospital is the second aid to the injured. The only things wasted in the rail mill are men.

The portions of the plant now under erection are surrounded by a stockade, within which are armed guards who have no police power.

The work on the buildings in the plant is strictly scab, and the working conditions are uniformly bad.—Michigan Union Advocate.

### SWITCHMEN'S STRIKE STILL ACTIVE.

St Paul, December 26.—Both the railroad managers and the craft union "representatives" of the men profess to be sanguine to-day of an early settlement of the strike difficulties.

Gov. Eberhardt, through whose office the strikers and the railroads reopened negotiations, said:

"I have talked with several of the railroad officials, and I believe that they will be able to get together with the men over the disputed question of the reinstatement of the striking switchmen on Monday, when I firmly believe all difficulties will be disposed of."



# SOCIALIST MOVEMENT OF AMERICA

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY KATE S. HILLIARD OF THE MARXIAN CLUB OF OGDEN, UTAH, BEFORE THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CLUB OF SALT LAKE CITY, DECEMBER 9, 1909.

The subject for discussion this evening is the different methods employed by the organizations which are making for socialism. Therefore it would be well to agree upon a definition for socialism, its aim, and its method for gaining the end. The accepted definition of socialism is: The collective ownership by the people of the land and of all the means of production, distribution and transportation; its aim—the abolition of the wage system, which results in wage slavery. The power for its accomplishment, the economic solidarity of the working class and political action. Everyone will agree that this is the recognized formula.

Socialism is a working class movement. To be correctly understood it must be looked at from the economic interests of the working class. It is a world-wide movement, and can not be confined to, or represented by, any one organization or set of people. Many people confuse the reform movements and reformers with the socialist movement, and this confusion must be avoided, for these cloud the real issue and do more to retard the growth of socialism than its outspoken enemies. Juvenile courts, reformatories, charity associations with their long train of relations serve to bolster up the system which the socialist would remove to replace with a co-operative commonwealth. The foundation for the new order is almost finished, and the scaffolding for the new structure is in course of construction, for socialism is not destructive, but it is constructive. Reformatories are ostensibly built to help delinquents, but they are really a protection for a society which furnishes a breeding ground for criminality, and those who work on these lines are more culpable than the unfortunates whose lives tend to make them criminal.

Any organization which admits that the capitalist system must be succeeded by the socialist system, which recognizes the class struggle, is recognized as a factor in the socialist movement. Whether they are strong factors or weak factors is an open question. There are four known organized bodies in the United States which take this stand, and the methods adopted by each is the subject matter of this paper. First, there is the Christian Fellowship Association; second, the Industrial Workers of the World; third, the Socialist party; fourth, the Socialist Labor Party.

The Christian Fellowship Association is not a political body; many of its members, however, are associated with the Socialist party. It recognizes the class struggle, and the inevitability of and the necessity for the Socialist republic. Its membership is quite large, and includes clergymen, church-going people and people of many fads. The main work of the organization is to get the subject of socialism before the congregations of the various churches. This is the one thing on which they are a unit. But some of the members think a change of heart in the individuals is necessary before socialism can be made possible. They claim that Christ was a Socialist, a claim that is pure fallacy. Socialism is born of Capitalism; its inevitability and necessity come from wage slavery, and wage slavery comes from the improved machinery for production, which is owned and controlled by a few men, who as a result, own and control the labor power of the people. Christ was a revolutionist of his times, and a Communist; but it is folly to say that he was a Socialist. The Christian Fellowship dwells on the Golden Rule and its members identify themselves with reform movements, anti-alcohol workers, and are the kind of Socialists that point to the post-office as a demonstration of socialism, which it is not. Their meetings are opened with prayer, and the majority of the members call themselves Christian Socialists, a fallacy which is beyond the comprehension of a logical mind. One is a socialist, or one is not a socialist. Socialism can not be modified by any adjective, nor a socialist qualified by one. It would be as sensible to speak of a professor of mathematics as a "Christian mathematician" as to speak of a socialist as one. One may be a Christian and be a socialist, or an atheist and a socialist, a spiritualist, a theosophist, or a Unitarian, or anything else to which he chooses to belong and be a socialist. Socialism is purely an economic proposition. It will be plain then that the Christian Fellowship is rather a weak factor in the socialist movement. Its chief strength lies in its publicity. The three other organiza-

tions recognize political action, and are associated with the international Socialist Congress, which meets every two years in one of the principal cities of Europe. Every recognized political socialist organization in the world sends a delegate to this congress, where reports of the movements are given, and ways and means are discussed for the advancement of socialism. Resolutions are introduced and discussed, and those which meet the approval of the congress are adopted. The Congress sets the pace for all the socialist organizations. The Industrial Workers of the World was necessarily a socialist organization, and sent a delegate in the interests of industrial unionism, when the congress met in Stuttgart two years ago. The Socialist party, and the Socialist Labor Party have always sent delegates. At the Stuttgart congress there were four resolutions which the International considered favorably, two of which were voted on as measures to be adopted by the socialists; the other two were recommended. The two resolutions adopted were on anti-immigration and anti-militarism; those recommended for the socialists in America to work for were: industrial unionism and to devise some common ground for the unity of the two parties in the United States. You will please keep these four resolutions in your mind as they will be referred to later. At this juncture a slight digression is imperative.

Until 1899 there was just one political party for socialism in the United States, namely, the Socialist Labor Party. For three years or more previous to '99 there had been dissension in the party ranks about the attitude the party should take on the trade union question. As an auxiliary the Socialist Labor Party had an organization known as Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. The principles were on the order of the Industrial Workers of the World. The members of the S. T. & L. A. were opposed to the American Federation of Labor, not only because of the craft unionism which it taught and upheld to its members, but also because it did not recognize the class struggle and believed then as now that the interests of the employer and employees are identical. The socialist said that the American Federation of Labor was a tool of capitalism and would lead the workers into a mire (subsequent events have proved this to be true). The more conservative socialists said they must join the American Federation of Labor, and as it is expressed, "bore from within," a policy which is most fallacious. If there is any effective boring, it must be done from without. Over this question, the parties fumed and fussed and quarrelled; there were minor questions, of course, but the union question was the rock on which they finally split. Those who upheld the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance principles stayed in the Socialist Labor Party and held the party name and the party press. The other factions finally met in convention in 1901 at Indianapolis. This is known as the "Unity Convention," to which the Socialist Labor party refused to send delegates. At this convention the many difficulties were smoothed over, and a party was organized to be known as the Socialist Party. It adopted a revolutionary platform, with an appendage known as "immediate demands," and stood for political action alone as its propaganda. The Socialist party refuses to recognize the Socialist Labor Party, and in one thing it is persistent and consistent—that of pronouncing the Socialist Labor Party to be dead. Of this demise we shall speak later.

The I. W. W. as an organization is just at present in an unsettled state, but it is alive and slowly working out its own salvation. A word of retrospect will be in order, for the I. W. W. will have to be reckoned with sooner or later, as its principles are slowly permeating the organized as well as the unorganized members of the working class. Four years ago last June a convention was held in Chicago by representatives of twenty-two unions and 150 individuals, the voting strength of the unions being 49,585 with 150 votes from the individuals. They organized, calling the organization the Industrial Workers of the World, and adopted a constitution with the following preamble:

"The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few who make up

the employing class have all the good things of life.

"Between these two classes, a struggle must go on until all the toilers come together on the political as well as on the industrial field, and take and hold that which they produce by their labor through an economic organization of the working class without affiliation with any political party."

and as their slogan, "An injury to one is an injury to all." An organization of this kind was a menace to capitalism, which the capitalists, true to their class interests, recognized, and the kidnapping and persecution of Moyer, Haywood, and Pettibone was because of the part they took in the organization of the I. W. W. The charge of complicity in the Steunenberg murder case was a conspiracy; their arrest was a blow struck at industrial unionism. At the Stuttgart International Congress a delegate was sent from this then live organization of the I. W. W. The organization has had many vicissitudes. A division took place within a year of its inception and about a year and a half ago one branch of the organization declared against political action, which caused another disruption. The members of the organization who are having such a merry time in Spokane represent those who repudiate political action. Those who hold to the true principles of Industrialism are doing propaganda work, knowing that when they reach the majority of the intelligent working men and women their time will come. So their part in the socialist movement is agitation and education, until the time comes when the whole body of the working class will see that whether they be black or white, Japanese or Chinese, Huns or Finns, Germans or Americans, their interests as workers are identical. Foreigners recognize this fact, as for instance at McKees Rocks, when the foreigners stood together as one man, but to their shame be it said, the Americans went back to work, scabbing on their fellow-workers. In spite of this the strike was won, for a time at least. It is yet to be seen what the capitalist has up his sleeve. The strike in Sweden is proving the efficacy of a general strike in industrial unionism.

The resolutions adopted as a part of the socialist propaganda by the Inter. Soc. Congress at Stuttgart were the anti-immigration and the anti-militarism resolutions. This last is not of so much moment in the United States as in Europe. It was keeping pace with the anti-militarism resolution which caused the uprising in Spain and indirectly the assassination of Ferrer. In Europe the working class are socialists, and when the workers were ordered to take up arms for the mine owners and capitalists, they refused; hence the uprising and its outcome which aroused the indignation of the entire world and has weakened the power of the church and state over the people.

The immigration question is of interest to us, and any stand taken against immigration by any socialist organization is in direct opposition to the principles of socialism and makes a mockery of the socialist motto: "Workers of the world unite; you have nothing to lose but your chains, and a world to gain."

The working men of Europe are sound on the question of industrial unionism and if they had the ballot, as we have, they would make things hum. They think Americans very stupid to believe in craft unionism and to eliminate politics from the unions.

This brings us to the third factor, the Socialist party, which was organized in 1901. Its platform is revolutionary and claims allegiance to the principles of international socialism. Their emblem is the world with clasped hands across it, and the motto: "Workers of the world unite." It has organizations in nearly, if not every state in the union, with locals in many of the cities and towns which also re-iterate their adherence to the principles of international socialism. The propaganda work is solely along political lines, and they teach and preach political action alone. It claims to be neutral on the trade union question, saying that the party is ready to receive the union men when they see that their interests lie with the socialists. Its national committee is composed of members from different state organizations, and not a working man is on this committee. Its constitution says that a person must have been a member of the party for a year in good standing to be allowed to be nominated on any political ticket—city, state or national. It admits to membership anyone who signs its application card, and asks no questions as to whether he knows anything of the principles of socialism, saying he will learn all about it after he is in the local. But I am here to state that the basic principle of socialism is never taught in the locals, for they bar discussion and call it wrangling, and the words *class conscious* and *economic solidarity* are barred. Every state organization and local has

the "immediate demand" appendage. Their reason for this is that the socialist party of Germany and France have them. Conditions are different in the foreign countries; there the working classes do not have the right of suffrage, and they know that economic freedom must come through political freedom so they are demanding universal suffrage and there is a basic principle involved. In this country we have the right of suffrage, and there is no need of immediate demands: there is only one demand, and that is the unconditional surrender of the capitalist class.

To satisfy everybody's demand for immediate demands, the Socialist party sent out at one time a document some two feet long and five inches wide of two columns of immediate demands—demanding everything from free baths to cheap gas—to be voted on by all the party locals. Some one called it the "blanket injunction" of the Socialist party and it certainly held its own for opportunism. The state organizations are allowed the greatest latitude by the national, even allowing state autonomy, as instanced by Wisconsin. It has a press called the S. P. press. It would be impossible to enumerate all the papers called socialist, but here are a few: The "Appeal to Reason"; "The Chicago Daily Socialist"; "The International Review" of Chicago; "The Call" of New York, a daily; the "Social Democratic Herald"; and Wilshire's. These papers are owned and controlled by a few people. They are owned by some socialist party members who are stock holders, and edited generally by some one who has an economic interest in it. Some of the Socialist party members fondly believe that the "Appeal to Reason" is owned by the party, but the answer given by a socialist who knew, when asked if it were not owned by the party covered the ground: "Yes, it is owned by a party named Wayland." Such a press can not be official, for there is no direct means of communication between the locals and organizations; no one has anything to say about the policy of the papers; no one has a right to criticize. The editor is the chief, and if you don't like it, you know what you can do. To keep the papers alive all kinds of advertisements are allowed, and at one time the "Appeal" had an advertisement of a co-operative concern in Chicago urging socialists to buy stock in it and get their goods at cost. The "Appeal" went so far as to uphold this concern in its columns. The concern failed; the people lost out, and in the face of this known fact the Socialist party members boom the "Appeal" which has never led, it always follows, it feels its way. This is a sample of all of them. Another danger from such a press is that at a critical moment the editor may sell out or become convinced that some other policy is better and throw the paper to another cause. That it can be done and has been done, I will recall an instance that happened here in Utah. At one time there was a paper started called the "Crisis". Some of you may remember that it was owned by a few stock holders and kept alive by ads. and subscriptions, and many of us worked like beavers to keep it going. At one election, where, by the way, the party, ignoring the constitution had men on its ticket who were not members of the party, the editor became convinced that the American Party which had just been born meant more "for the good of Utah" than did the Socialist party, so he turned the paper over to support that ticket with large letters around the margin "Support the American Party" and the Socialist party was helpless; they had not been consulted; their protests were thrown into the waste paper basket. Is there any trust to be put in such a press? A party must have an organ that keeps each section in close touch with each other section, and it must be controlled by the whole party and each member must be on the alert for any false motion or treachery. Otherwise at a critical moment everything will be lost.

This party, as we have seen, gives its allegiance to international socialism, which claims that there should be no law against immigration. At the last congress an S. P. delegate introduced a resolution against what he was pleased to call the backward races, and at the S. P. convention last year an anti-immigration plank was inserted in their platform and carried by a large majority because immigration was detrimental to the American workers. Neutral on the union question, and yet its members are members of the A. F. of L. All their papers and publications have the union label. Delegates go to every A. F. of L. convention and introduce annually a socialist resolution which is annually voted down; this has been done for years. It is the "boring from within" process. Members say they believe in economic solidarity but it isn't time yet—when the time is more than ripe for it and it is the mission of all socialists to preach it from the house-tops and in the highways and byways of the world. The S. P. says, "Vote the ticket; let us

have the votes." How do they expect to bring in the socialist republic with votes and no solid economic backing? The government owns everything, all the forces, and can count out votes as easily as wind carries off the chaff. The example set by Colorado gives the lie to the efficacy of the vote alone. You will recall that in Colorado at one time an amendment to the constitution was put before the state to be voted on. The amendment was whether eight hours should constitute a legal day's work in the mines. It carried in favor by a large majority. It came before the legislature and was ratified by both houses and signed by the governor; in ninety days it became a law, and the miners demanded the eight-hour day. The mine operators refused to comply; the miners struck and the case was carried to the Supreme Court of Colorado, by whom it was declared unconstitutional. If that can be done in a state, it can be done by a nation. The capitalists hold every power of the government, even to the industries. They are class-conscious and the slogan of the I. W. W.—"An injury to one is an injury to all"—is exemplified by them. How then can an unorganized, craft-unionized body of workers take the government from the capitalists?

We left the fourth factor of which I shall speak tonight in 1901, depleted in numbers, but in possession of the party name, the Socialist Labor Party, its auxiliary the S. T. and L. A. and the party press, which, by the way, the new party claimed as well as the party name, but as the S. L. P. was still an organization and those in possession of the press had refused to acknowledge the rights of the bolters, the courts decided that the name and press belonged legally to the S. L. P. organization. So nothing daunted they kept right on in the straight line for socialism. And as I have read of the many struggles of the S. L. P. with the Knights of Labor, and Anarchists, the Single Taxers, the craft unions and the S. P., it is clear that it has always kept on the straight class conscious line and has kept its head above water. The S. L. P. also has its revolutionary platform and is content with that alone. It allows of no appendage such as the immediate demands, holding that it is not the province of socialists to seek to better the conditions under capitalism. It simply prolongs the agony, and retards the coming of the better day. To become a member one must be class conscious, not necessarily a bona fide member of the working class; as long as one recognizes that there are only two classes, the capitalist class and the working class, and solves the question from the class interests of the working class, that person is eligible to membership. No S. L. P. member is allowed to accept a government position or accept office in an A. F. of L. union. It says, "No compromise, no political trading, no side-stepping is allowed." The S. T. & L. A. was merged into the Industrial Workers organization in 1905, and the members are working in the S. L. P. and also educating the members in industrial unionism.

The S. L. P. believes in the party's owning and controlling its own press. It publishes a daily paper of four pages, The Daily People, and a weekly paper of six pages known as the Weekly People. It also has a Swedish, a Jewish, a German weekly paper; a Hungarian semi-monthly and an Italian monthly. It has a publishing house known as the New York Labor News Co., and prints and publishes all the standard books on socialism, all its propaganda literature and everything that pertains to economic and historical conditions. This plant is owned by the party. The party elects the editors of the papers and they are paid a salary. If an editor did not comply with the party's demands, he would lose his position. The papers give the news of every local in the country; publish the proceedings of its committees; have a department for correspondence and letters from members and non-members which appear in the department. They also have a question box where all questions pertaining to the socialist movement are answered. The papers go to every S. L. P. organization in the country and to the members at large, and they are enabled to keep in close touch with one another. And each and every organization knows just what is being done and the party work is carried on as one movement. Always the press keeps posted on the movements of S. P., the A. F. of L. and the I. W. W., whether it be the fake "I. W. W." or the true one. It has commented on the S. P. press and its immediate demands, its political trading in critical times in derision and ridicule, and the statements are never answered because they are true. The S. P. ignores the S. L. P. unless the direct question is asked about it and then the answer is, "The S. L. P. is dead." So it is sometimes quite a shock to the S. P. members to find out what a lively corpse the S. L. P. is. The S. L. P. is now and always has been the watchdog of the socialist movement. It hews close to the line and

never cuts to the right or left, but straight ahead. It stands as a solid wall between the conflicting political parties. It has been the habit of many S. P. members to criticize and deride the adherence of the S. L. P. to the terms "class conscious" and "economic solidarity." But that makes no difference. To be a socialist one must be conscious of the working class interests. The capitalists do not use the terms, but they are class conscious. Just touch any business interests of the country or of the world and they close together as one man in defense of their interests. The working class should do the same. It is by repeating and hammering on these two truths that the working class will be awakened. The emblem of the S. L. P. is an uplifted arm holding a hammer ready to strike, and the piercing expose of all false methods in the movement are given hammer blows by the party. The S. L. P. has always fought "anti-immigration" because the interests of every worker the world over are the same. The S. L. P. did not need the request of the international to teach industrial unionism as it has always taught it. The recommendation for socialist unity was heeded by it, and after the delegate's return he reported the work of the congress and the S. L. P. took action and unanimously agreed to set aside all differences and ask for a conference with the S. P. to decide on a common ground of unity. This was sent in the form of resolutions to the national executive committee of the S. P. It was turned down by them and it was not even mentioned in their so-called press. But some of the members knew of it and they demanded a hearing, so at the convention last year it was brought before it and voted against by two-thirds majority. The sentiment was expressed this way: The S. L. P. members can come in as individuals if they wish to.

That such action on the part of the S. P. is folly and is harmful to the movement will be apparent to everyone. For the benefit of the discussion it will be well to give a concise summary of the different methods of the two parties:

The S. P. stands for political action only; the S. L. P. stands for industrial unionism as well as political action.

The S. P. stands for a privately owned press; the S. L. P. stands for a press owned and controlled by the party members.

The S. P. has a constitution which its members may violate at will; the S. L. P. has a constitution which is complied with by all its organizations. He who violates it is ruthlessly cast off.

The S. P. does not instruct its members in the basic principles of socialism; the S. L. P. does instruct its members, otherwise they would not belong.

The S. P. claims adherence to the principles of international socialism, as exemplified by the international socialist congress, yet it ignores the resolutions and recommendations of the congress.

The S. L. P. claims adherence to the principles of international socialism as exemplified by the international congress and puts them into practice; the S. P. is divided on the question whether the industries of the country should be bought or taken from the capitalists. The S. L. P. says, "When the workers organize as a unit, they will take possession of everything."

The universal slogan of the Socialists seems to be meaningless to many socialists. But, friends and members of the Social Science Club, remember that the fulfillment of socialism is embodied in it and your interpretation of social economics must be from the standpoint of these words: "Working men of all countries unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains and a world to gain."

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## UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS

THE "EIGHT-HOUR DAY" IN SYDNEY AND AUSTRALIAN PLEBS LEADERS.

By R. Mackenzie, New South Wales, Aus.

In contrast to the American "Labor Day" which is held throughout North America by the American Federation of Labor on the first Monday of September, Eight-Hour Day in Australia, which is a similar ceremony in the most of details, is held on different dates in the various industrial centers. The only reason as far as the writer can see, for not holding the celebrations simultaneously, is the fact that such arrangement would prevent officials from having a round of various banquets and ceremonies which loom largely in the observance of the day. America has produced a prolific crop of labor-leaders, but Australia can also line up.

To illuminate this statement it need only be pointed out that recently in New South Wales rockhoppers were fined and imprisoned for striking, and police were sent to Broken Hill during the strike there, and then "riots" broke out, following which there were sentences of two and three years for some of the strikers. The man who had these strikers jailed is Premier Wade. Stick a pin there. Now, preceding Eight-Hour Day on Monday, October 4th, a banquet was held in the Trades Hall of Sydney, and one of the "guests of honor" was this same Premier Wade. One of the Senate candidates for the ensuing election proposed the toast of the "State Ministry" notwithstanding the fact that it was that ministry headed by Wade that prosecuted and jailed the members of the Rockhoppers' Union. Premier Wade in reply said, "I thank the assemblage heartily for their courtesy in inviting me to be present. It does the unions great credit to receive a political opponent so generously, and I would like to see more social intercourse and mutual respect between political opponents. I would ask those who do not hold the same views as this Government to give them credit for desiring to follow out the best destinies of the State and of being loyal to their trust. A Government is merely like a family doctor, with its hands upon the public pulse."

The Plebs leaders of ancient Rome never put their feet under the mahogany of the Patricians with greater gusto than did these "Leaders" of the Australian workers, with the enemy of labor at this banquet. In view of the fact that the Socialist party press in America and other reformers point to Australia as enjoying wonderful advantages because of its "Labor Government," the following excerpt from Wade's speech at the banquet will prove interesting:

"It seems a peculiar thing to say that although this is the fifty-fourth anniversary of the 'Eight-Hour Day,' there is still a large number of workers in the State deprived of the boon."

The final scene of the banquet was the toast of the "President of the Committee," proposed by Mr. Wade, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" by the company. The usual manner in which this Scotch song is sung, is for the company to clasp hands in a chain, and the first verse, which is generally sung is:

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
An' never brought tae mind,  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
An' the days o' auld lang syne."

The song is productive of good fellowship and is supposed to recall pleasant memories among a congenial company. When Wade clasped hands with the "Labor Leaders," I wonder if "in the days of auld lang syne," he had a mental vision of the face of Garroway, the president of the Rockhoppers' Union, who died shortly after release from prison for striking. If he had, it must have been with fenshish glee that he shook the hands of the "Leaders." Did the song recall the same vision to McGowan, Fisher or McDougal, when they sang it? If so, the hand of the Premier should have been spurned; if not, the wrongs of the working class are nothing to them, and, like the Plebs leaders of Rome, their actions do not reflect a desire to release the working class from wage slavery, but how to themselves escape from work. Away with the Jews.

A law was passed recently in New South Wales making lotteries illegal, and has been enforced, but the "Eight-Hour Day Committee," which runs an "Art Union Lottery," received a special dispensation and was allowed to run its annual lottery by permission of Premier Wade and his Cabinet. The secretary is the "Labor" party Senate candidate, McDougal, who has a steady job as paid secretary. The size of the lottery can be gauged by the fact that one of the winning numbers was 232,203, and the first prize was a diamond tiara valued at \$2,500. Tickets were a shilling each, and

probable income would be \$40,000. The labor movement in America could never show a more infamous deal with the Capitalist Class and its politicians than this "special dispensation" from Premier Wade.

The parade on the occasion of this "Eight-Hour Day" started out with a strong wind blowing, which made many unions furl their banners, remembering their experience of last year when many banners were blown to ribbons, with fifty-seven unions in line, and about 10,000 marching. Some unions took the opportunity to give their masters a free advertisement. The Brewery Workers followed a wagon load of beer, with two men standing holding a foaming tankard in a replica of one of the brewing companies advertisement, while a kilted highlander played the bagpipes seated on the topmost case on a wagon load of whiskey. Many of the new banners were works of art, showing the workers at their various occupations, and many contained the following inscriptions: "Organized to assist, not to crush," and "Organized to assist, not to injure." These mottoes were correct, for these pure and simple unions all believe in the capitalist system of society, but the words, "the boss," should have been added to fit their character.

Bakers baked and threw their product to the crowd; tinsmiths followed suit. The tobacco workers had an allegorical representation of tobacco growing, with figures of Uncle Sam representing America, and a squatting redskin, and a figure of Johnny Cornstalk representing New South Wales, the whole being crowned by a woman as "My Lady Nicotine."

The new banner of the Australian Institute of Engineers had a painting of torpedo boats ordered in Britain by the "Labor" Government. This was to signify that "We Australians can build these boats to defend our country." Nuff sed.

All the exhibits, which were the property of capitalists, were "escorted" by policemen, and mounted police were first in the parade, as a "guard of honor."

The bookbinders had a representation of "White Australia," a woman seated on top of a pyramid, and "Boy Scouts" (an organization composed of boys being drilled in the "art" of warfare) clinging to the pyramid, in company with a "Girl Aid" (an organization of girls being trained to bandage the "scouts" who should be hurt in the exercise of their "art").

The crowning scene in the parade was a lorry loaded with all kinds of wire netting, containing a placard that it was produced by an Australian Wire-Netting Co. It was followed by the newly formed Wire Workers' Union, with a gorgeous banner, the front side calling for legislation to protect Australian industries from the sweated foreign products, and giving the amounts of money sent abroad for wire netting from N. S. W. and the Commonwealth, for the previous year. On the back was a painting of a rabbit chewing up the verdure and designated as "The curse of Australia." As the only ambition of the Australian trades unionist is to get a steady job, their emblem was a piece of heels over head reasoning, for the "rabbit pest" uses up more wire fencing than anything else, consequently, the rabbit should have been designated, "The God of the Wire Workers' Union, long may he live and multiply."

Such was the fifty-fourth anniversary of Eight-Hour Day in Sydney, the progress of which movement can not be discovered with a microscope, for as the president said at the banquet: "Tho' it was the fifty-fourth anniversary, still the majority were still deprived of the boon."

Pest tho' the rabbits be, the curse of the Australian worker is the capitalist system, which will not be ended by parades of the property of the master class, but by the industrial and political organizations of the working class. Speed the day!

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## THE MEXICAN PROLETARIAT

A Mexican on His Own People and the S. L. P.

El Paso, Tex., December 15.—Although somewhat late in the history of the Socialist Labor Party, the day has finally arrived when a Section of the S. L. P. was organized in this place.

Seeing that the geographic demarcation places El Paso on the frontier of the so-called "Mexican Republic," the Mexican element is considerable in this city. In view of this a short sketch of the history of Mexico will aid the Party at large to understand the exigencies of this locality.

The Mexican proletariat has never yet in the course of its history felt the clear joy of its own existence. The reason is it never had the opportunity to develop its own intellectual faculties. The pages of its history show that since 1521, the date when its natural development was checked by the unjustifiable conquest of the Spanish Government, down to the year 1810, that is, 300 years, its back was bent under political despotism, it was tortured by the ignominious yoke of religion, and it is vilely enslaved on the economic field. From the year 1810, the epoch of the proclamation of its independence, down to 1857, the Mexican proletariat staggered under the weight of uninterrupted bloody wars—wars for the consummation of national independence, wars for the establishment of the national political organization. Towards the year 1857 the dawn of hope seemed to break over the horizon of the Mexican wealth-producer. A political constitution being established, under which the country was organized into a representative, federal and democratic republic, governed by laws that guaranteed life to the citizen, the outlook at last promised redemption. But these principles of liberty, which had been allowed to develop would have been the cradle in which more advanced ideals would have been rocked, were villainously betrayed by the Pharisee Porfirio Diaz, the manikin of the clerical and capitalist caste, when he usurped the executive powers in 1876.

On the 5th of May of 1876 this traitor was "declared" elected to the presidency. Among the many acts with which he followed up his "legitimate" possession was the act of June 24, 1879. On that date he ordered to be shot 9 persons, who, as expressed by the historian Manuel Payno "were innocent and well known and esteemed in Vera Cruz," the place where the affair took place. In 1880 he accepted the co-operation of the foreign capitalists, and thereby delivered to the insatiable greed of these the Mexican proletariat tied hand and foot. In keeping with these preliminaries, the "hero of peace" has ever since drowned in blood whatever movement bore the stamp of self-respect for the toiling masses. The bloody issues of the strikes at Orizaba, Rio Blanco, Cananea, etc., are illustrations.

From this historic sketch it will be easy to form an idea of the psychological state of a people that for nearly 400 years has labored under the ignominious yoke of the capitalist, the clergy and the soldier—an accursed trilogy, the foe of the human species. Born and brought up in economic slavery, such a people believes in the absurd theory that it was created to be poor—the blasphemy of bourgeois civilization! Fanaticized by so-called religion, it bows resignedly to the law of its wretched slavery. And when misery itself drove it to rebellion, the cruel steel of the soldier cut its weak efforts by the root.

Thus it happens that the Mexican people is sinking in despair and insensibly into ever deeper depths of degradation, decline and inertia. Hence, to my mind, nothing short of a formidable shake-up will lead, formidable enough to shake the existing social system to its very center, and thus be able to shake the Mexican working class out of the ruts in which they are now stuck fast, and switch them on the tracks that lead to a high ideal.

Revolutions of the ancient type are insufficient to effect the needed change. Former revolutions appealed to sentiment. What to-day is wanted is the appeal to the intellect. And this demand of our days is met by the Socialist Labor Party.

Clementi Garcia.

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## THE PROPHETIC POLLIWOG

In the good old Days, long, long ago, there once Lived a very large Community of Tadpoles in a small, shallow, and unusually dirty Bog.

These Tadpoles were so excessively numerous, and the Bog was so foul and mean, that untold Suffering resulted. Batrachiacide, enguzzlement, and frogulent practices were the Order of the Day. Every little while some Tadpole would be found with his Gills cut and his gullet stripped of its Last Amoeba. Every few days, by some Banko Game or other, an unsuspecting Tad would lose his last Whip of Lily rootlets. Some made away with Themselves by madly flinging themselves up into the Air. Others sold themselves into Bondage to certain other Master Tadpoles who, to complicate matters, laid Claim to all the richest Mudwallows. Countless little young and tender Tads were forced to labor, hunting Animalculae in the Slime, where no end of them Choked to death. Young and old died, leaving their Carcasses to contaminate what little Water still remained unmonopolized Outside the Domains of the Captains of Mudistry. Also, as the Sun dried up the Bog, the opportunities for Making a Living daily diminished.

There was, in short, a perpetual Jostling and Crowding, in which the Weakest went to the Pebbles. Save for the favored Spots owned by the high Mudanciers, the whole Bog became one Welter of Misery.

About this Time the Tads began to hear the voice of a Prophetic Polliwog. This P. P. had a speculative turn of Gangle, and he had figured out what was Due to Arrive before very long in the United Swamps. He understood Polliwogic Determinism, the Law of Surplus Infusoriae, and the Class Wiggle. Not content with conditions, he began to agitate the Bog.

"Swimrades," said he, "this strife and struggle are All Wrong. There is a Better Way. The near future holds a different Status for us all, without Distinction as to Size, Color, or Previous Caudal Extension."

The others, especially the Mudopolists, sneered and tried to Turn up their Noses. This was difficult, for they Had no real noses to turn Up, but they Tried just the Same. The P. P., however, was not discouraged. He continued: "Outside this wretched Bog lie Regions whereof as yet we know not. There are large Fields full of Flies, Bugs, and other Lusciousness, in the greatest abundance. When you become Fit, you can go Thither and all live in Peace, Prosperity, and Joy. This Bog is really too vile for decent and high-minded Tads to live in!"

Then some of his Hearers waxed angry, while others mocked. "Treason!" cried one. "The Villain has no Patriotism, thus to malign his Native Slough!"

"Mudraker!" exclaimed another. "Visionary!" declared a third. "Undesirable Swimmer!" spouted a fourth, a large and burly Tadpole, with glistening gills. "The short, ugly word for you!"

One and all they flouted the P. P., who was, however, not at all Disconcerted. He replied: "Your remarks have Nothing whatever to Do with the Facts. We are even Now undergoing an Evolutionary Process, which will some day Free us all from the Bog."

### CAN'T SHIFT BLAME ON EMPLOYES.

Washington, December 22.—A sharp notice has been sent out to the railroads by the Interstate Commerce Commission warning them that failure hereafter to obey the orders of the commission or any attempt to charge such failure to

the alleged negligence of employees, will be treated as an intentional violation. This comes as a result of the action of several railroads which have failed promptly to comply with the commission's orders and then excused themselves by blaming some employees.

Then they indeed Made Merry. Some, instigated by the High Mudanciers, even suggested appointing a Commission to determine the sanity of the P. P.

"Why," they all agreed indignantly, "nobody ever Heard of such a Thing as Tads going out on the Land to eat Bugs! Tads we always have been, and Tads we always shall be. You can't change Tadpole Nature!"

"So?" answered the P. P. "Well, maybe, but how about Frog Nature, then? Before long you'll see the Change, never fear!"

"Pooh! Tell that to the Marine Algae!" scoffed his opponents. To each other they whispered: "Poor Pol, he certainly has kinks in his Notochord!"

"Laugh away," replied the P. P., with irritating calmness. "I still affirm that One of these Days we shall All lose our Tails and Gills. We shall grow Legs, and shall go Out into the Land. Then—"

"Landarchist!" screamed the Mudopolists. "You're trying to underswim the Foundation of the Established Ordure!" And all the Retainers of the Muddled Aristocracy rallied to the defence of the Masters.

"Fellow Swimizens!" adjured the Polliwogicians, "you must refuse to Listen! Stand firm beneath the folds of the Glorious Old Flag-roots where you were Hatched!"

"He is unscientific," gravely declared the Teachers. "If what he says is True, what then would become of the Survival of the Slipperiest?"

"The Villain is trying to Break up the Bog!" chimed in the Tadpole with the shiny gills. "He occupies in relation to Bogistic morality, a position so Revolting that I find it Difficult to discuss or even mention it in a reputable Mudhole!"

There were a goodly number of Leeches in the Bog, all firm friends of the Mudocracy. They were especially bitter in denouncing the P. P.

"Why," they jeered, "this Ne'er-do-weel is actually Advocating Dividing Up our Tails to make Legs out of! If his idea was Carried out, what Incentive would there ever be for our Lower Classes to burrow in Filth and Goo at the Bottom? If you believe him, the whole of our Present Sloughicity will perish! He ought to be arrested and Put in a Dry Place. To the Pebble-tertiary with him!"

Most of the Tads agreed, but others Began to try to Think with their Microscopic Gangle. A few of the Cleverest came to the conclusion that Perhaps there Might be something in It.

"But," said they, "it will never Be in Our Time. Maybe in a Thousand Weeks our great-great-grandpales, to the Ninth power removed, may evolve Legs, but such blessings and Beauties are not for Us. True, it is a Beautiful Theory and much to be Desired; but after all it is only a Wonderful Frog-topia." And they flouted the P. P.

"Alas," they concluded, "that such a Splendid Dream, such a Vision of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Grasshoppers should be merely theoretical—should be so Diametrically Opposed to Batrachian Nature!"

But the P. P. only smiled a trifle Sadly, though Confidently, to himself. For all the time he Knew that, deep under the Skins of his Contentious Conferees, the Rudiments of Legs were Slowly Forming.—George Allan England, in Puck.

## THEY ADMIT IT

Missionaries Advance Agents of Commercialism, Says Head of Their Society.

We Socialists have, over and over again, claimed that the Christian church is devoted to the interests of capitalism: that it is, in all its various ramifications, an agency of the ruling class. Particularly have we insisted that the much boomed foreign missions of Christianity are conducted in the interests of commercialism.

"First the missionary, then the soldier, then the trader."

Of course we have been contradicted, abused, discredited, by those interested, and their dupes. Now, however, we are justified, and by no less a personage than the Reverend G. J. Williams, newly appointed agent for the London Missionary Society in Australasia. This gentleman ought to know, and he stated, in the course of an address delivered at the Society's annual meeting a few days ago that:

"Missionaries were ambassadors of commerce and empire builders. Commerce followed in the wake of the missionaries, who had won whole provinces for the Empire by bloodless wars."

Ahem! "bloodless" is good. Will the candid mission agent take the trouble to look up only a few of the instances where the killing of the aggressive missionaries has been made the pretext for despatch of punitive expeditions of gunboats, and even of international armies—as to China a few years ago? These were just "regrettable incidents," eh? Mr. Williams proceeded, inter alia:

"Africa was the great dark cloud overshadowing the world. The British Empire was on the verge of a great volcano, and the only way of escape was to invade Africa with the ideals of Christianity. Otherwise no one could estimate the effect of setting loose a race so virile and numerous."

This is good! Excellent good! First of all missionaries are "ambassadors of commerce"—the phrase generally applied to commercial travellers; secondly, capitalism is warned that the virile barbarian races are not likely to make good wage-slaves unless they are, at the same time, liberally doped with christian "otherworldliness."

Thank you, Mr. Williams! This is the first time that so plain and significant an expose, by one of their own accredited agents, of the true role of the churches as mental chloroformers of the peoples in the interests of their exploiters, has come to the notice of the present writer.—Sydney People.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1910.

We have been busy with the critique  
of reason. I should like to see a critique  
of common sense. It would be a real  
benefit to mankind if we could convinc-  
ingly prove to the ordinary intelligence  
how far it can go.

—GOETHE.

LATIN AMERICA STEPPING UP.

The international circular from Ar-  
gentina, published in these columns in  
the course of the week; the article on  
the Mexican proletariat, which appears  
in to-day's issue; the war talk against  
Nicaragua, together with the facts that  
are beginning to leak out concerning  
this affair, and all of which point to  
bourgeois manoeuvres that radiate from  
bourgeois financial centers in this coun-  
try and Europe;—these and many more  
instances that are crowding to the fore  
denote the rapid stepping up of Latin  
America within the swirl of the Inter-  
national Capitalist cyclone, and, along  
therewith, the certainly speedy and active  
share of the Latin American proletariat  
in the International Movement of Labor.

As was to be expected, the advent of  
Latin America in the full-orbed Inter-  
national Movement—Capitalist, as well as  
its reflex Socialist,—is being inaugurated  
with fire and sword, a fire kindled and a  
sword wielded, as everywhere, by Cap-  
ital.

In Argentina, a Chief of Police inaugu-  
rates the reign of full-fledged capitalism  
with a massacre of workmen cele-  
brating the International Day of peace  
and good will on earth—May Day.

In Mexico, a President in perpetuity,  
who originally graduated as a leader of  
capitalism by leading the republican  
forces of his country against Maximilian  
and overthrowing the attempt to intro-  
duce feudalism in the land, now exhibits  
himself stripped of the sentiments of  
human freedom, that animated him when  
fighting monarchy, and preserving now  
only the instincts of his class, drowns  
the glorious remembrances of his fifty  
years ago victories around Queretaro in  
the blood of the Mexican proletariat  
shed at Rio Blanco, Orizaba and Cana-  
nea.

In Nicaragua, an Estrada is rising on  
the ruins of his country's independence  
obedient to the demands of Capital  
abroad, which is seeking "investment,"  
and thereby is, without its knowledge,  
taking the first necessary steps to drill  
the Nicaraguan division of the Interna-  
tional Socialist Army.

In Argentina, Mexico and Nicaragua it  
is the forces of International Capitalism  
that are pressing themselves forward;  
hence, in Nicaragua, Mexico and Argen-  
tina are seen to-day in several stages of  
formation the proletarian organizations,  
which, struggling for the footing that his-  
tory demands they shall gain, appeal to  
their International Brotherhood abroad  
for moral and all other assistance in  
their power—an appeal that is heark-  
ened, accompanied with applause at their  
advent.

WATSON ON INTEREST.

In the "Jeffersonian" for the current  
month Tom Watson appears in poetic  
garb. What? Does he really turn up  
in rhyme and meter? Not exactly. The  
appearance is that of prose, plain prose;  
the style is that of poetry, lyric poetry.  
The article in question is entitled "In-  
terest." It is a lyric poem to justify  
sponging, and should have borne the title  
of "Sponging," not "Interest."

According to Mr. Watson the genesis  
of borrowing is idling. There was a Mr.  
Walker who worked hard; at the same  
time there was a Mr. Idler who idled  
equally hard. While Mr. Walker sweat-  
ed, Mr. Idler lived, laughed, loved and  
enjoyed life. Mr. Walker's hard work  
produced fifty dollars. That's his "Re-  
ward." One day Mr. Idler knocks at  
Mr. Walker's door, and says: "Let me  
use your Reward for my pleasure and  
profit." Mr. Walker, who is entitled to

use his Reward, asks Mr. Idler: "What  
inducement do you offer me?" The up-  
shot is the birth of Interest, that being  
the inducement offered by Mr. Idler, ac-  
cepted by Mr. Walker, whereupon the  
angels sing in heaven at the sight of  
the "poor man being enabled to use the  
rich man's Reward."

As an item in Mother Hubbard's ex-  
perience, which started with her cup-  
board, this would be lyrically charming.  
As an item in economics it is mere bal-  
derdash.

Interest on a capitalist's money,  
profits on a capitalist's plant, are differ-  
entiations of the identical thing—Spon-  
ging; the one and the other has its origin  
in the same act—expropriation; in the  
one instance, as in the other, the Spon-  
ging requires the same conditions.

The conditions for Sponging are the  
existence of a class, that is without the  
wherewithal to work, confronting a  
class, that holds the wherewithal to  
work. As a consequence, the conditions  
for sponging are the existence of a class,  
that, in order to live, must work for a  
class that can live without work.

The beginning of such conditions lies  
in the brutal expulsion, by a minor-  
ity, of the majority of the people, from  
the land.

The majority having been driven with  
fire and sword from the soil become the  
thralls of the Expropriators who return  
to the Expropriated only a pittance of  
their produce on field and, later, in fac-  
tory, mines, etc.

Interest, paid by the worker to the  
capitalist, for the use of his money, is,  
accordingly, exactly as the profits, paid  
by the worker to the capitalist for the  
use of his plant. The "bargain" made  
by the borrowing or the working prole-  
tariat is the kind of "bargain" that is  
made between the highwayman and the  
wayfarer.

Poetic license is allowed in works of  
rhymed fiction. Science knows naught  
of that.

POOR WIGGINS!

We quote from "The Provoker" of  
the 16th of this month, the new Socialist  
party paper of which Mr. Thomas J.  
Morgan is Editor, and which was com-  
mented upon last week in these columns:  
We quote from it:

"A. A. Wiggins, ex-Central Commit-  
teeman, Seventh Ward, writes: 'After  
eleven years' activity in the Socialist  
party, professional control of the party,  
as illustrated by its National Executive  
stopped me. I quit. To clean them out  
is a big job. They control all the means  
of reaching the membership. I wish  
'The Provoker' luck and will help it  
all I can.'

Poor Wiggins!  
Of all persons deserving of pity it is  
he with whom it takes eleven years to  
see the obvious fact that he is "in a  
hole," and, having at last seen the fact  
and crawled out of that hole, forthwith  
and deliberately plunges into "another  
hole." This is poor Wiggins's case.

A press ever responds promptly to  
its owners. The bourgeois press gives  
daily evidence of the democratic prin-  
ciple that runs it. "It jumps and sings  
what dances and tuncs its stockholders  
will. Are they Republicans to-day?—  
their paper warbles Republican ditties;  
do they become Free Traders to-mor-  
row? forthwith does their paper twitter  
free trade madrigals; do they change,  
or their interests dictate a free silver  
policy? instantly their paper hums 16 to  
1 catches. And so forth. The expecta-  
tion that a paper perform the tunes of  
those who do not own it is a mere piece  
of acoustical absurdity. Whose voice is  
heard at the other end of a telephone  
wire? The voice of him whose lips are  
away from the receiver? Absurd ex-  
pectation! His voice is heard who holds  
the receiver. So with a paper. It  
sounds the voice, utters the words, re-  
commends the views of those who con-  
trol it—and none controls a paper but  
those who own it. On that obvious  
principle the S. L. P. insists that itself  
shall own its press.

All this is so obvious that it needs no  
argument. All this notwithstanding,  
Wiggins, who had not even the sem-  
blance of a voice in determining the pol-  
icy of the "press of his party" seeing  
that press is privately owned, consumed  
eleven years to discover that fact—and,  
at the moment he discovered it, ker-  
slap he drops into another hole of like  
make-up by pledging all the help he can  
give to another privately-owned paper,  
Mr. Morgan's venture.

Poor Wiggins! His is the case of the  
workman, who, having supported the  
Democratic party of Tweedledum dur-  
ing eleven or more elections, and got it  
regularly in the neck, jumps out of that  
hole and, with wishes of "Good luck!",  
bestows all his energy upon the Repub-  
lican party of Tweedledee. His is the  
case of the staked ox, which may  
change his location but is, kept within a  
given radius by the tether that holds  
him to the stake.

If a party of Labor or Socialism does  
not own its own press, "its press" will  
own it. Poor Wiggins, slipping his head  
out of the yoke of one privately-owned  
paper only to push his pate into the

yoke of another privately-owned publi-  
cation! Poor Wiggins—an S. P. dupe-  
type, held by the tether of illusion to  
turn in a vicious circle, around the stake  
of Thimble-rig.

AMERICAN FORTUNES

Commendable is the path on which  
Gustavus Myers, the author of "History  
of the Great American Fortunes," struck  
out. The first volume of Mr. Myers's  
work, just published by Kerr & Co. of  
Chicago, should encourage others to "go  
and do likewise."

As far as abstract theory is concerned,  
Socialism has all the literature it can  
want. What now is needed is literature  
that may furnish facts for further stud-  
ies. Nevertheless, so fascinating to the  
trifler is the dishing up of the thoughts  
of the great founders of Socialism in new  
flavored sauces, and so easy is this meth-  
od of the Socialist cuisine, that well may  
one say with the wise man of old, "Of  
many books there is no ending." The  
loads of books on Socialism that are be-  
ing dumped upon a patient public, and  
that are conspicuous for furnishing not a  
single new fact, least of all a new  
thought, are enough to scare away any-  
one who approaches the study of the  
subject for information. In the mean-  
time rich quarries invite the pick of the  
earnest prospector for historic facts  
wherewith to enrich the study of sociology.  
Mr. Myers's pick has brought from the  
quarry a valuable specimen.

The American fortunes are things well  
worth looking into. A history of the  
same, whether the fortune be old or re-  
cent, is bound to shed valuable light  
upon many a capitalist myth. Whether  
the investigator be radical or conserva-  
tive, whether he be Socialist or Anti-  
Socialist, whether he be animated with  
the truthful spirit of Science, or whether  
he be a sycophant who seeks pelf by  
flattery, matters not. No sycophant,  
Anti-Socialist, or conservative can  
wholly escape facts. The biographer of  
P. T. Barnum, for instance, unquestion-  
ably a Barnum sycophant, neverthe-  
less laid bare facts of inestimable value.  
A Socialist's work must be proportionally  
more valuable still.

If the other volumes of Mr. Myers's  
work are as well put together, and are  
the fruit of as much original research as  
this first volume, the work will be a  
standard to all men and women who seri-  
ously put the question: Whence and  
Whither?

PLURAL VOTING IN SAXONY.

One, Two, Three, and Four Vote  
Electors by New Law.

Consul George Nicolas Ifft, of Nu-  
remberg, furnishes the following infor-  
mation concerning the new elective fran-  
chise law which has just become effec-  
tive in the Kingdom of Saxony:

The upper house is in no sense  
elective. It consists of some 45 to 50  
members among whom are, first, all the  
royal princes of lawful age; then, 10  
large landowners; 6 mayors of cities  
and 5 miscellaneous members appointed  
by the king; 6 nobles chosen by a group  
of hereditary lords of the land; 12  
large landowners, chosen by the owners  
of ritterguts (knightly estates); 4  
church dignitaries; the mayors of Dres-  
den and Leipzig; and one representative  
from the University of Leipzig. Most  
of these members are appointed for life.  
The lower house consists of 91 mem-  
bers, to be elected under the new law.  
They are elected from 43 city and 48  
country districts, and for 6-year terms.

The new election law provides for  
voters of four classes, viz, those with  
1, 2, 3, and 4 votes, each, based upon in-  
come, position, education, and age, and  
figures from the registration of voters  
just made indicate that the 4-vote elect-  
ors, who are very largely government  
employees and large landowners, will  
cast a vote almost as large as the other  
three classes combined. They constitute  
in round figures only slightly more than  
one-fourth of all the electors, but would  
need the help of only a trifling number  
of the 3-vote electors to poll a clear  
majority of all votes, and the 3-vote  
electors, it must be noted, are largely  
of the same class of citizens as the 4-vote  
electors—government employees and  
landowners. In the city of Leipzig, for  
instance, 32,576 1-vote electors cast  
32, 576 ballots, 20,323 2-vote electors  
cast 40,646 ballots, 8,538 3-vote electors  
cast 25,614 ballots, and 18,491 4-vote  
electors cast 73,964 ballots. It is thus  
seen that 18,491 electors, with 4 votes  
each, can outvote, by a majority of 742  
ballots, the 52,899 electors who have  
only 1 and 2 votes each, and that 27,029  
electors, with 4 and 3 votes each, have  
a clear majority of 26,356 votes over  
the 52,899 electors with only 1 and 2  
votes each.

In the first legislative district of the  
city of Zittau, of a total of 7,458 electors,  
1,941 are entitled to 4 votes each. In  
other words, about 26 per cent. of the  
electors are entitled to cast 7,764 votes,  
which is only a little short of half of  
the entire vote.

WHO CAN TELL?

The Republican, Democratic and other-  
wise bourgeois press of this city are  
growing either very sleepy, or very wide-  
awake. Which of the two theories ex-  
plains the silence of that press upon the  
alleged Spokane "Free Speech Fight,"  
that the Socialist party press is trying to  
raise so much dust about?

The Socialist party being from the  
start a Disjointed Impossibility,—the in-  
terests of the International Socialist  
Movement demanded that the fatal de-  
fects of the conglomerate formation  
should ripen to a head and reveal them-  
selves as fully and speedily as possible.  
To promote the consummation was an  
obvious task before the Socialist Labor  
Party. Now that the leading light of  
the concern, Mr. A. M. Simons himself,  
has been discovered to admit his party's  
disjointed impossibility, it will be read-  
ily perceived that, a steady policy being  
excluded by the very spirit and structure  
of the S. P., it was no difficult matter  
for the S. L. P. to fulfil the particular  
task, which consisted in promoting the  
exposure of the S. P. Indeed, the S. L. P.  
all along has obviously played upon the  
S. P. as upon a flute. The chapter on the  
Amsterdam Resolution in "The Flash-  
lights of the Amsterdam Congress" enu-  
merated, as long as five years ago, a  
number of instances in which the S. L. P.  
dictated the S. P. policy. Spokane fur-  
nishes the latest, perhaps the most strik-  
ing, instance in point.

In Spokane there were gathered about  
two years ago in a lodging house a num-  
ber of men and women from the mass of  
unemployed who roam the West. These  
people, although not bearing the remotest  
semblance of a Union, were organized  
into a "Local of the I. W. W." What-  
ever prospect there was of drilling these  
raw recruits into useful members in the  
revolutionary army of the proletariat  
was speedily destroyed by their organ-  
izer, one J. H. Walsh, whose supporters  
publicly boasted of his having served his  
term in the Walla Walla penitentiary for  
theft. The measure of Walsh's incu-  
batees may be taken and their level  
gauged by the following enumeration of  
authentic facts:

First. Under the name of the "Overalls  
Brigade" and headed by Walsh, a delega-  
tion of the lodging house traveled from  
Spokane to the Chicago convention of  
the I. W. W., supporting themselves on  
the way by begging and stealing.

Second. In Chicago, led by an avowed  
and feather-brained Anarchist of the usual  
type from Minneapolis, Axelson by name,  
who declared: "Show me where political  
action has accrued to the benefit and  
where it can benefit the working class,"  
the "delegation" struck from their Pre-  
amble the clause that urged the prole-  
tariat to unite upon the political as well  
as the industrial field.

Third. In Chicago—where they were  
joined by Mrs. Elizabeth Flynn-Jones of  
New York, whose husband had inaugu-  
rated the convention by, jointly with St.  
John and Heslewood, slugging a delegate  
—they were transported with delight  
when the lady accused Delegate Francis  
of New York of guilt for having exposed  
a loafer in the New York organization  
who peddled a contrivance by which one  
capitalist could cheat another. When the  
lady, speaking on this subject, and with  
characteristic logic, morality and grasp  
of the Labor Movement, defended the  
fraud explaining: "Think of it, we want  
to 'take and hold' the whole plant of  
capitalist production, and shall we play  
the police spy for the capitalist when a  
workman appropriates a few cents  
from the capitalist's hoard!" she became  
from that instant the "Joan of Arc" of  
the Spokane element, with whom she has  
since figured.

Fourth. Returned to Spokane, the  
"delegation" set up a paper of their own  
—the "Industrial Worker," which, with  
admirable frankness, came out for just  
what its constituents stood. It sneered  
and jeered at the ballot, which it re-  
pudiated as an unclean thing, a "con-  
cession of the bourgeois"; it preached  
physical force, "direct action" only; and,  
logically enough from its premises, it  
urged theft as a means of proletarian  
re-expropriation—Anarchy, in short  
and at all points.

Fifth. The first "practical work" of  
the Spokane lodging house organization  
was to initiate a war against the Em-  
ployment Agencies, by breaking the win-  
dows and otherwise wrecking, not the  
large Employment Agencies, but, very  
much to the satisfaction and the profit  
of these, by wrecking their small fry  
competitors in the business.

Sixth. This episode over, and there  
being no more "worlds to conquer," the  
Spokane lodging house concern began to  
violate the municipal ordinances in the  
matter of open air speaking; and, instead  
of making a test case and by orderly  
methods of procedure seek to improve the  
ordinances, the concern took to rioting  
in "direct action" fashion, whereupon the  
dupes were successively arrested, and  
finally the ringleaders also; and this per-  
formance they called a "Free Speech  
Fight."

Even Anarchists, whether of the duper  
or the duped brand, have rights. But  
these rights, each of them a constant of

civilization, can not be protected by jus-  
tifying methods that civilization rejects,  
and which are born of morals that civil-  
ization spurns. The International Social-  
ist Movement repudiates slummary as  
baneful to the proletariat. Even but to  
be silent on the Spokane rowdism would  
have been disloyalty to the International  
Socialist Movement. The Spokane  
rowdism demanded prompt reprobation.  
Duty to the proletariat demanded the  
exposure of the semi-ignorant semi-  
vicious Spokane manifestation, all the  
more seeing that the voluble Anarchist  
phraseology ever is of a nature to en-  
trap the unguarded by captivating their  
sentiment. Accordingly, the S. L. P.  
press promptly published the facts, and  
drew the conclusions that flowed there-  
from. In doing so a few periodical and  
well-directed shots at the Spokane "di-  
rect actionists" would have sufficed. The  
conditions, however, called for more than  
that. They demanded the killing of two  
flies with one clap.

When the I. W. W. was originally or-  
ganized, calling upon the proletariat in  
the language of International Socialism,  
to unite upon the political as well as the  
economic field, the Socialist party  
viciously assaulted the new body. The  
S. P. thereby exposed one of its constitu-  
tional and fatal defects. Theoretically,  
now that a body which repudiated the  
ballot, which insanely sought to gather  
the workers into an organization for  
"direct action" by the methods of the  
Spokane "I. W. W."; and which, of  
course, could find no favor with the So-  
cialist Labor Party;—theoretically, under  
such circumstances, the S. P. was likely  
to fraternize with the preposterous con-  
cern. The matter could not be left to  
theory. Certainty was necessary. If the  
S. P. was what all pretentious symptoms  
indicated it was, then it was of impor-  
tance to the International Movement in  
general, to the Movement in America, in  
particular, to cause the fact to stand out  
clearly. An army on the march, and  
flanked by bushes behind which foes may  
skulk, throws a few shots in that direc-  
tion. The shots draw the enemy's fire  
and thereby unmask it. Obedient to this  
principle of military tactics the S. L. P.'s  
cannonade against the Spokane caric-  
ature called "Free Speech Fight" was re-  
doubled, and made to sweep the whole  
horizon. The tactics were eminently  
successful. The S. P. was forced more  
and more from cover, until it came out  
in full and unqualified support of the  
Spokane disgraces of the Labor Move-  
ment—its press running over with hy-  
sterical whoops for the Spokane alum-  
nists; its agencies cataleptically calling  
"indignation meetings" in their behalf,  
and, above all, pulling all the under-  
ground wires that connect them with the  
bourgeois press, and which hitherto they  
have been successfully able to pull in  
order to boom themselves.

Now, the question with which this  
article started forces itself upon the  
mind—

Is the silence of the metropolitan bour-  
geois press on the Spokane disturbances  
an evidence that the bourgeois press is  
asleep, and has forgotten its cue to boom  
the S. P. and its boomers in the hope of  
causing the S. L. P. to be blanketed?

Or has the bourgeois press at last  
awakened to the reality that, at all crit-  
ical moments, S.P. manoeuvres are dictat-  
ed by the S. L. P., and, consequently,  
that to yield to these manoeuvres only re-  
ounds in the interest of the S. L. P.  
and International Socialism?

Which of the two theories is the cor-  
rect one?

MINE RESCUE.

Trained Corps Could Be Maintained at  
Small Cost.

The recent deplorable mine accident  
at Cherry, Ill., in which there were hun-  
dreds of deaths, brings up the question  
of expert direction in such disasters.  
Untrained volunteers are entirely use-  
less as was demonstrated in France a  
couple of years ago, when about twenty  
rescuers went down in a mine to their  
death. The expert life-savers from the  
Westphalia mines, who were sent by the  
Kaiser, and their tested ropes and other  
tackle, came too late, but their work  
demonstrated that if they had been  
called in earlier, they might have saved  
a large number.

The cost of expert direction in acci-  
dents would not be very great, and it  
seems as though if we protect our coasts  
by guards, we might also do something  
to protect our miners. A few men who  
are especially fitted could be organized,  
and drilled in each district, and the mine  
owners themselves might be made to  
furnish the necessary equipment, which  
would not be a very great tax on any  
operators.—Scientific American.

A. F. of L.'s Beggary.

Washington, December 18.—Federal  
inspection of railway locomotive boilers  
is proposed in a bill introduced to-day  
by Senator Burkett of Nebraska. The  
bill was asked for by the officers of  
the American Federation of Labor and  
of the Brotherhood of Locomotive En-  
gineers.

UNEMPLOYMENT  
AND PAUPERISM

Scourges Which Afflict the Helpless  
Worker Under the Capitalist Sys-  
tem.

Not only are industrial accidents and  
trade diseases in themselves causes of  
poverty; they are also among the  
causes contributing to swell the "Army  
of the Unemployed." Unemployment  
itself is a dominant factor among the  
causes of poverty.

At a meeting of Congregational min-  
isters in New York City last winter to  
discuss unemployment, one of them  
stated that it was his belief that 98  
per cent. of the 200,000 and more work-  
ers then out of employment in New  
York City alone because of the indus-  
trial depression were undeserving and  
would not work if the opportunity were  
offered. This was his opinion, and it  
is the belief of many others, but it is  
an opinion not based upon a knowledge  
of the facts.

At that time honest, capable, home-  
loving, temperate men were tramping  
the streets of the city day and night  
looking and praying for work, and be-  
cause they could not get it were com-  
mitting suicide, becoming charity de-  
pendents, being sentenced to idleness  
in the workhouse, were deserting wives  
and children, and were being forced  
into the commission of crime. To them  
no work meant no pay, and no pay  
meant no food, no clothing, no shelter.  
No work meant idleness, the cutting off  
of wages, the exhaustion of savings  
and credit, the abandoning of aged  
parents and the breaking up of homes,  
the physical and moral deterioration  
of the workers, a decrease not only in  
labor efficiency but in the labor sup-  
ply also, an increase of distress, of  
prostitution, vagrancy, pauperism, pov-  
erty, and of despondency in various  
other forms. In brief, idleness long  
continued among a laboring population,  
means insane asylums, hospitals, work-  
houses, jails, penitentiaries, and like  
institutions.

Society not only lost the temporary  
value of the labor of the hundreds of  
thousands of unemployed during the  
recent industrial depression, but it will  
now also have to support in almsh-  
ouses and like institutions for the  
remainder of their lives many thou-  
sand formerly efficient workers.

The 1908 reports of all charitable in-  
stitutions, both public and private in  
New York State, show a startling in-  
crease in the number of inmates and  
in the cost of operation. The increase  
in the State's expenditure alone for  
charity for that one year exceeded \$2-  
500,000.

The number of admissions to the  
prisons of New York State in 1908 was  
118,647, an increase of 21,000 in one  
year—an almost unprecedented record.  
The report of the State Prison Com-  
mission states that the present method  
of sending unemployed men and women  
to jail in many cases amounts to im-  
prisoning them for being poor:

"Many of the men so committed were  
simply out of work and out of money;  
they were not criminals, and needed  
pity and relief and not punishment. No  
public policy requires that such men be  
sent to prison. The distinction between  
misfortune, or even improvidence, and  
crime should be carefully observed. The  
enforcement of the present law often  
results in oppression to poor people,  
many of whom are ignorant of their  
rights and all of them too poor to de-  
fend themselves."

Figures in the report of the New  
York State Charities Aid Association  
for the past year show that the largest  
annual increase of the insane in the  
State's history occurred during the  
year of widespread unemployment fol-  
lowing the industrial depression in  
1907. This increase was 1,414 com-  
pared with 741 the previous year, the  
total number of cases in public and  
private institutions being 30,597.

This downward tendency toward  
poverty and pauperism of the unem-  
ployed has been observed by every  
student of the problem, and it has come  
to be an accepted truism that "the  
curve of pauperism (showing its in-  
crease) follows almost exactly at an  
interval of one year the curve of unem-  
ployment." And from this state, un-  
fortunately for society, very few, if  
any of them, ever emerge again into  
the ranks of regularly employed, in-  
dependent labor.—Metropolitan Magazine.

Miners Injured in Oklahoma.



UNCLE SAM AND  
BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—Socialism is  
simply ridiculous. It would make nineties  
out of men.

UNCLE SAM—You are becoming in-  
teresting.

B. J.—What makes men strong is tri-  
als and hardships; remove trials and  
hardships from the path of men and  
they will become jelly fishes. Look at  
our galaxy of self-made men. But for  
them the country would not be what it  
is; but for the hardships and trials they  
had to contend with they should not  
have been what they are. Look at me.  
I now can draw a check for a million.  
I am a self-made man. I know how  
good it is to rough it in early life; to  
sleep on straw and learn what it is to  
have temptations in your path. (Strik-  
ing his chest.) That's what makes men.  
I speak from experience. Socialism  
would be no better than a plague—a  
plague upon it, and long live our glori-  
ous institutions!

U. S. (shaking his head pensively and  
a smile at the corner of his mouth)—  
"Hardships and temptations in early  
life" are part of the institutions which  
you claim as yours?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—Without them the nation would  
cease to have men?

B. J.—Yes, sir.

U. S. (after a pause)—By the way,  
Jonathan, turning to something else, are  
you getting into litigations, or trouble?

B. J.—No; why?

U. S.—I saw you going up into Law-  
yer Seth Cheatem's office yesterday  
morning.

B. J.—Yes, I did. But it was no  
law-suit. (Confidentially approaching  
Uncle Sam.) You see, I am getting old.  
I may at any time be taken off. The  
rheumatism is gaining on me, and the  
doctor tells me my heart is affected. I  
wish to settle my affairs. My five boys  
and my two daughters should be provid-  
ed for. I don't want to leave things so  
that any crook might come around and  
leave these children penniless and unprotected.

U. S. (With mock solemnity grabs  
Brother Jonathan by the collar with  
both hands and shakes him)—Traitor!  
B. J.—W-h-a-t!

U. S. (still shaking B. J.)—Traitor!  
I say.

B. J.—I traitor?

U. S.—Yes! Traitor to your country;  
foe to our "glorious institutions of hard-  
ships and temptations in early life";  
base demoralizer of our young folks by  
seeking to make jelly fishes; weakener  
of our American manhood! (Giving  
Brother Jonathan a final shake.) Trai-  
tor, who should be indicted, hanged and  
quartered, make your peace with heaven;  
I am going to inform upon you and see  
to it that you get the deserts of your  
traitorous plan.

B. J. (catching his breath)—Are you  
gone crazy?

U. S. (with increased mock solemnity)  
—No, sir; I am a patriot, I am. And  
when I see a man deliberately trying to  
undermine our "glorious institutions of  
hardships and temptations in early life,"  
my blood boils, and



# CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

## RINGING MESSAGE FROM LOUISVILLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Louisville, S. L. P., held a most encouraging meeting last night. The attendance was good, the spirit of the meeting was good, and the work, as evidenced by the subs. enclosed, approached high water mark. Such a meeting is cheering in the highest sense, and makes one feel the glow of religious enthusiasm.

We send greetings to the comrades everywhere in their heroic battle against the wrong, and say to them that Section Louisville, in the metropolis of the "Dark and Bloody Ground," will never lay down her arms, nor turn her back to the robber capitalist class.

We say to Philadelphia, Cleveland, Seattle, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Hartford and the others, we want you to remember Louisville is on the map, and is there to stay. Keep your eye on Louisville, as well as Philadelphia.

R. S. P.  
Louisville, Ky., December 20.

## HOW ETTOR OF THE I-AM-A-BUMS WORKS IT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I must say that I have lately traveled over parts of Ohio and Pennsylvania and saw how affairs were at Schoenville. The Trautmann faction I noticed is playing a game in which does cut a great figure and the educating of the workmen no figure at all. In fact I myself am just beginning to see the correctness of The People's remark in calling this faction "veiled dynamite." At McKee's Rocks as far as I know the result of the strike was left to the bosses. The men held a couple of meetings lately. I attended one but most of it was in foreign language, I was not able to follow the remarks of the speakers. One man, Ettor, who is of the Trautmann faction and claims to try to organize the men of Jones and Laughlin Mills, used to the men this dope: "Why don't you organize? What are you afraid of? The bosses only number about 50 to your 500. You ought to organize and take possession of the mills," etc., never once referring to the powers the capitalists have. It will take time to educate these men. But nothing is done to educate them. It is all Dues! Dues! Dues!

F. W.  
Wilkesburg, Pa., December 17.

## ONE MORE S. P. PAPER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—To-day's paragraph in the Daily People announcing the appearance of a new privately-owned paper in that camp of Editors which goes by the name of "Socialist party" and should be called the "Editorial party"—I-I-I-Morgan's "The Provoker"—a German story occurs to me:

"Who shall sew the trousers?  
"The tailor.  
"Who shall make the shoes?  
"The shoemaker.  
"Who shall brew the beer?  
"The brewer.  
"Who shall bake the bread?  
"The baker.  
"And who shall edit a newspaper?  
"Every d—d fool who runs away with the belief that he is the wisest guy that was ever born."

I never thought when in my boyhood days I heard this story in my Bavarian village that I would ever have the opportunity to experience how internationally true the story is. But when I look around and see the crop of Editors (!) in the so-called Socialist party, and when I now see Tommy-I-I-I unable any longer to withhold from the world his editorial powers, I must say that the Bavarian story fits the United States like a fist fits the eye.

J. Scheuerer.  
New York, December 18, 1909.

## A CORRECTION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—In my article published in the Daily of last Friday, December 17, Weekly, December 26, headed "Professional S. P. Turned Down," I wish to make a correction. It was Dr. Kuhns instead of Dr. Adel that moved not to allow O. Freer to distribute the Weekly People at the meetings of Branch Columbus, S. P. It is the fault of the party that informed me of the action that a wrong name was used.

Oscar Freer.  
Columbus, O., December 18.

## S. P. "FREE SPEECHERS."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The usual Sunday afternoon lecture at the S. L. P. hall was held yesterday. The address was made by a local reformer who spoke on the "Evolution of Society." He viewed society as an organism and gave an interesting talk from the reformer's standpoint. He said that the ills of society could only be cured by the individuals in society eliminating all selfishness in themselves, the workers looking after the interests of the employers and the employers looking after the interests of the workers and thus establishing universal brotherhood.

During the discussion the comrades gave him some knotty problems to solve, which he utterly failed to do when he took the floor in reply.

In the evening some of us attended the S. P. lecture in Logan Hall, with the usual result. Phil Menassian was the speaker and his subject was "Nature and Nurture." It was a dull affair until we took a hand and then it was a roaring farce. In his concluding remarks Menassian stated that the S. P. watchwords must be "Agitation, Education, Organization." As soon as he was through McLeure was on his feet with a question: "Will the lecturer outline the kind of an organization the S. P. considers necessary for the overthrow of capitalism?" The chairman, Davies, declared that he had been asked to take the chair on account of a certain element attending the lectures who had an ulterior motive in view and that as the question was asked by that element it would not be answered. McLeure appealed and Davies talked for five minutes on what a bad thing it was to ask questions at a lecture of this kind and how, the question being on tactics, it was not advisable to have it answered. He then put it to a vote and of course the audience supported him.

Higgins then got up and asked the same question in a different way, giving the S. P. one or two hard knocks in the preface to his question. Of course the chairman did not allow the question, and put up a long wall about us spoiling his meetings. He stated that he had brought several friends of his to the first lecture of the series and they had since refused to attend because of the lack of harmony among the Socialists. Anton had the bad taste to laugh at this, and to make things worse, he too asked a question: "The lecturer has spoken about the capture of political power or the State. Will he tell us what they mean to do with it when they capture it?"

The chairman would not allow this question either. McLeure then explained why he had put his question, which he had not been allowed to do before, and asked if the church in the Middle Ages had not employed just the same means of suppressing discussion as the S. P. was now doing. This was another chance for Davies to talk about our motives and be concluded by saying he believed in free speech but—and then someone shouted, "Adjourn the meeting!" which was promptly done. The S. P. is still alive but very, very sick.

R. McL.  
Philadelphia, Pa., December 20.

## CAPITALIST "SAVIORS."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The "Evening News"—ance, a capitalist sheet of this city, and one which is on twenty-three sides at once in all questions, (except Socialism, where it never loses an opportunity to slander S. L. P. members here), has this to say in its issue of the 16th inst: "Panics are caused by the people losing confidence and withdrawing their deposits from the banks. Then manufacturers and business men cannot get money for business purposes and have to decrease their activities and discharge their help."

Isn't it strange how so many people lose confidence all at once? But never mind. Even if the "peepul" are so thick-headed that they won't leave their billions in the banks and thus avert panics, we still have among us, gentlemen, and in our midst, J. Pierpont Morgan. Let all Socialists and other malcontents, who, as this same "Evening News"—ance says, hate to see any one getting on in the world better than themselves,—let all these take notice. Do they still persist in calling the capitalists a useless class, when it is proven with indisputable evidence that it is they who save the country when the "peepul" cause a panic? Let us pray.

Russel Palmer  
Paterson, N. J., December 17.

AN ANNIVERSARY SUGGESTION THAT RINGS TRUE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed please find \$2 for a six

months' renewal for the Daily People. Long may the only paper that is worth reading live. Of all the papers that have come to my notice, the Daily and Weekly People holds unique position, and any many character, whether friend or foe, must acknowledge its high moral tone and correct scientific posture. It is a paper that educates and develops men.

I would therefore suggest to the readers and Party members that we each either donate between now and July next ten dollars in cash, or, better still, buy sub cards for that amount for the tenth anniversary of the paper. Mine is hereby pledged.

George Nelson.  
Dorchester, Mass., December 17.

## HE'LL SING ANOTHER SONG NOW.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—At this time of the year, when the Christmas spirit—"Peace on earth, good will to men"—is supposed to be prevalent, it comes as a chilling blast to many faithful employees of the Merrick Thread Company to receive their walking papers instead of a Christmas present.

This time it was the higher paid workers—foremen, division chiefs, etc., who got the throw down.

Among the victims is one who served the company almost a life-time. He has been president of the Y. M. C. A., a pillar of the church, and a writer against Socialism. That is the unkindest cut of all. The company has been building new shops and putting in new machinery. Result: cheaper labor wanted. The old well-paid workers must go.

Observer.  
Holyoke, Mass., December 17.

## FOILED GARMENT FAKIRS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—On December 14, the leaders of the United Garment Workers of America called a mass meeting for the purpose of organizing a Pressers' Union here. Rochester has about 23,000 people who work in the tailoring industry. It was very interesting to go to the meeting, not to hear their talk, but just to see how many would attend. The hall was full of chairs. They waited until 9:30, up to which time twenty-seven persons came in; among those were two Italians. This number includes the four fakirs.

The meeting was opened and every one spoke for about five minutes, of course, pure and simple dope, "organize and strike for more wages," and join the A. F. of L. They also had an Italian organizer from Buffalo. He said that he thought he would find 800 of his people alone, but was disappointed. After the "orators" finished, the president asked if any one wished to ask any questions. One man, having in his hands the Bulletin of the Garment Workers of America, pointed to the advertisement of manufacturers who used the label of the U. G. W. of A. He said that Rochester also has two factories who use the label, one is Goldwater & Co., and the other is the Co-Operative Tailoring Co. He then asked how it happens that when there is no union in this city a factory can have the label, and conditions in those factories worse than in the others. The fakirs answered: "Why, don't you see? Organize them." The man who asked the question said that if he could organize them he would surely not take them to the American Separation of Labor. He also pointed out that the fakirs did not mind whether or not shops were organized as long as they received the money for the labels, and had a good time on it.

Some years ago Goldwater & Co. organized their own shops in the Garment Workers and the company paid the dues, but it was too expensive for them so they made an agreement with one who is an S. P. man, Max Kauffman, a first class fakir now in Chicago. The firm took him up in the shops as the leader of the union. Goldwater said he needed the label because he makes cheap clothing and sells it to the miners in Pennsylvania, who would not buy a suit without the label.

When the big strike of tailors was on here eight years ago the tailors appealed to the cutters, but they answered "we have nothing to do with you, we are a separate local." They scabbed on their brother tailors. They cut the cloth and the bosses sent the bundles away to other cities. The tailors lost their strike. About a year later the cutters went on strike and appealed to the tailors, but these answered the same as the cutters had done previously, gave no help. That strike was lost.

All these facts were told to the men at this mass meeting on December 14, and the man who related the matter then asked the fakirs if such were the kind of a labor organization that merited Labor's support. Well, this narrative sufficiently disgusted those who attended and over half left the meeting and the remainder walked out with the man who made the exposure. The fa-

kirs found consolation in shouting "scab" and "disrupter."

Cloak Presser.  
Rochester, N. Y., December 23.

"HURRAHISM" FLATTENING OUT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—On Friday night, December 17th, the Socialist party of Philadelphia held another "hurrah" meeting in the Labor Lyceum, Sixth and Brown streets. It was not what could be called a great "hurrah," but the general character of it was that of "hurrah, hurrah, boys, we're here!" The fanatical enthusiasm which characterized their last "hurrah" was gone—past and gone. At 8.30 the hall was about half filled; but three-eighths were S. P. members. At 8.32 the chairman, Ed. Moore, a ballot lunatic, sounded the war cry. Just then a noise was heard in the rear of the hall. The police? No. It was six or seven Germans running up the stairs that led from the bar. The war cry was sounded again. Grand and general "hurrah."

Moore denounced Taft and Diaz as murderers and general all around scamps. He then yelled like thunder: "They had better not drive us too far!" Malediction! Let tyrants tremble! The audience was then betraying signs of "I-am-a-bumism," a malady which produces that swinging melody: "Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Gimme a handout. I am a bum."

Mother Jones, the star of the meeting, was getting restless; she had heard the chairman stealing her "thunder." Just then the chairman put on the brakes, one hand in his pants' pocket, shifted his position on the stage, and ended his introduction with about face. The hour had come! Mother Jones! Subject: "Barbarous Mexico." "Hurrah, boys, we're here!"

The good old woman, in a pleasant tone of voice, laid down as a fundamental principle, Goldsmiths "Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey."

Where wealth accumulates and men decay." Sad, but true!

From the Goldsmithian premises, Mother Jones reasoned as follows: "Diaz is a cold-blooded murderer and cannibal. And it is time the workers were up and doing." Up and doing what? (Hush! you disrupter!)

"When I called on President Taft, he said to me: 'Mother Jones, I am afraid if you had charge of our Government, there would be nobody in jail. You would let them all go.' And I said to the President: 'If the Government spent one quarter as much money in feeding and educating the people, as it spends in building jails, we could all be free!'" Grand and general "hurrah."

"The unions should not allow their leaders to hobnob with the capitalists!" Hey?—Wot's at ye say?

"I would not let a non-union man enter my house!" Woe is the poor plug who can not pay the high initiation fee!

"The capitalist class have their watch dogs here to-night, and they can tell Taft and Diaz all I say!" Malediction! Malediction!! What's it all about? Ah! here we have it, like Providence at the eleventh hour. (I had been waiting for it.) Here it is: "When I started in this fight I found that the first thing we must have is MONEY." Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Bum again!!!

Ejayh.  
Philadelphia, Pa., December 19.

## THE LIGHT THAT IS DARKNESS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Professor Johnson of the New York Commercial School spoke before the National Gas Association on Tuesday the 14th, at Madison Square Garden. He cracked a number of jokes, after which he told his audience (which was largely composed of capitalist manufacturers of gas appliances) what they considered the best joke of all. He said:

"We are here assembled in a Gas convention in a hall lighted by electricity—a rather peculiar thing. But they say that the electric light company is controlled by the Gas company, and the Gas company is controlled by the Standard Oil, which also controls the output of candles, and John D. Rockefeller is considered as the whole spirit of the Standard Oil, so that Rockefeller controls all kinds of light."

"But there is another kind of light, the kind I deal in. Andrew Carnegie has seen fit to control this kind of light. He has donated \$30,000,000 to the Universities of the country to be used as an annuity for antiquated professors; but he did not give it in cash, he gave it in the form of stocks of the U. S. Steel Corporation, and no professor ever says anything against the U. S. Steel Corporation."

"Rockefeller has also donated \$23,000,000 to the Universities, and no professor ever says anything against Standard Oil; so that Rockefeller controls my kind of light also."

Pretty raw, coming from a capitalist professor, isn't it?

E. J. S.  
New York, December 18.

## BOWERY BREAD LINE

Men Forming in It Forced There Through Unemployment.

The Bread Line, as a booklet issued by the Bowery Mission goes on to tell, was instituted by Dr. Klopsch about six years ago, and is one of the many charitable works inaugurated and carried to a successful issue by him. It has become one of the sights of New York. It forms at 1 A. M. every day from Thanksgiving eve to Easter morn, and though there are often 2,500 men in line, none is "sent empty away." The Mission also opens wide its doors all night during the winter months as a refuge for as many of these homeless boys and men as it can accommodate on its benches, and before they are sent out at 6 A. M. they are given a breakfast of hot coffee and rolls.

The majority of these men have lost their nerve through disappointment, want of food, and lack of sleep. They are homeless, friendless and hungry.

Hungry was the air around them. Hungry was the sky above them. And the hungry stars in Heaven Like the eyes of wolves glared at them.

The booklet emphatically declares that if men are dying of hunger, feed them under circumstances like these, and then preach to them. Preaching to men with empty stomachs is a proceeding the uselessness of which Christ himself realized.

You will find on the Bread Line men of every trade and profession. It is not whiskey that drives them into this line. It is non-employment. Tramping the streets week in and week out hunting work crushes the spirit out of any man.

Pointing to one of these men, a policeman said: "He's a workingman out of work and unable to find any. He hates to take charity, and that's why he won't let you see his face. There's another, who gulps down his coffee, stuffs the bread inside his coat and rushes home with it to those hungrier than himself." Hungrier than himself! Then God help them all, for he looked starving. "Aren't some of them crooks?" was asked. "Crooks?" said he, "why, bless you, what does a crook need to be in that line for? There isn't a man there who couldn't steal enough to get him a night's lodging and breakfast. At the worst, he'd only get caught and maybe get a few months in jail, or a couple of months on the Island. That would be better than standing here in the rain or the cold, waiting for bread and coffee. The crook doesn't come here. He doesn't have to. There isn't a man in that line who is there from choice. I know a lot of them. Knew them when they got out of work. They got sick, or were injured, or their eyes failed. Finally, something gives way inside of them, and they're in the bread line."

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## LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

D. T. S., WORCESTER, MASS.—A book that is worth reading once is worth reading twice. Only at the second reading of such a book is the crop really garnered. The first reading of such books is mainly breaking of ground, weeding and sowing.

M. B., PASADENA, CALIF.—The wear and tear of the machinery that goes into a product; the raw material that is consumed in turning out the product; all that Marx calls "constant capital." He gives it that name because no more value is imparted to the goods than they consume from such sources. It is otherwise with the labor-power consumed in production, it imparts values over and above its own. Hence a variable value. Hence Marx calls that "variable capital."

E. J. H., PHILA., PA.—Roman slavery was ever chattel slavery; feudal slavery was mainly serfdom—ownership of the laborer through ownership of the soil on which he worked. Besides the economic difference there was also a practical one. Feudal slavery, however barbarous, never was characterized by the utter disregard of human life that characterized Roman slavery. The Sue series brings out the difference of the two quite graphically.—Next question next week.

A. M., NEW YORK.—Young man, no Anarchy! The S. L. P. will not monkey with that bane to the International Socialist Movement. If you have to make your own experience, go ahead and make it. The Socialist Movement has that experience behind it.

"STUDENT," LOS ANGELES, CALIF.—The S. P. of to-day has repudiated the Int'l Congress decrees on Unionism and Immigration. The S. P. of January, 1909, when unity was proposed by the S. L. P. had not only not yet repudiated the Int'l Congress, but there was reason to believe it would abide by the Congress. The S. P. delegates at Stuttgart had pledged loyalty to those decrees. The S. P. of to-day is, therefore, a different proposition from the S. P. when unity was offered to it.—Next point next week.

L. F., NEW YORK.—By way of preliminary.—Vain as it is to expect Socialism from a "demonstration of the injustice of the present system" it is no less vain to expect Socialism from "demonstrations of how a system so radically different from the present one can be made workable." Socialism is not a patent machine; it is a stage in social evolution, and its "workableness" is not a matter for demonstration, but a social necessity.—The questions will be answered successively in the following weeks.

E. V. P., NEW YORK.—Whether the Spokane I-am-a-bums will re-insert the political clause in their platform we know not, and care less. One thing is certain—an economic organization that repudiates the ballot is no better, in some respects it stands at a lower level, than the Gompers-Mitchell concerns which also periodically resort to "direct action," that is, to placing the cart before the horse by applying physical force out of season, rhyme or reason.

A. B. McC., MANCHESTER, VA.—It won't do the lady any harm, and it may do her good to furnish her a copy of the address on Woman's Suffrage. If she is sensible it will help her to straighten out many a kink now in her mind.

F. B. S., STAFFORD SPRINGS, CONN.—The way to do is to join the S. L. P. and find out.

A. T., YOUNGSTOWN, WASH.—Write in English. This office does not understand Esperanto.

D. B. M., GRANITE, OKLA.—What happened to the Church on the collapse of feudalism was not the same in all countries. But in all countries the Church Establishment underwent marked changes. The collapse of feudalism was accompanied with a violent revulsion against the Church, for its having stood by the feudality and practiced many of its horrible privileges.—Next thing next week.

G. W., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—The benignity of Karel in the Sue story "The Iron Pincers" is no exaggeration. The Abbigensian Perfects were men of a unique stamp. They combined Stoic for-

titude with what is called Christian meekness.

F. G. C., OAK HARBOR, WASH.—The prospects are that the full 19 stories of the Sue series will be out before this time next year. The 15th, 16th and 17th are now in various stages of completion. The idea of a 20th story to bring the series up to date is fine.

R. H., NEW YORK.—He who claims that the editorship of The People is an autocracy on the ground that, even if an appeal lies to the N. E. C., the N. E. C. will be swayed by the reasoning of the Editor of The People,—he who holds such language holds baby language. What is such language but an endeavor to escape the trouble of proving that the defeated reasoning did not deserve defeat?

T. J., BUTTE, MONT.—The S. P. man who understands the S. L. P. position is right, and that "the S. P. has outlived itself" has no business in the S. P. He should join the S. L. P. No S. L. P. organization in his place? Then become a member-at-large. Such a man would, by staying in the S. P., be giving aid and comfort to what he must realize is deserving of destruction only.

W. C., SAN DIEGO, CALIF.—Yes; sympathy with the Spokane Anarchists would attract sympathy for the S. L. P., but only among the unthinking and unposted; it might also attract funds, but the sympathy and the moneys would be paid dearly, later on, by the proletariat. Any such sympathy, fomented for Spokane, would encourage slummism—the worst enemy of the revolutionary proletariat. It is just at such contingencies that the mental, physical and moral integrity of a bona fide Socialist or Labor organization is tested. Though it might be misjudged at first, it will be appreciated in the end. The policy of a bona fide Socialist or Labor body, at such contingencies, is firmly to state the facts and insist upon them. Not a single fact stated by The People with regard to Spokane can or has been denied. The S. L. P. looks for neither pelf, nor the popularity of the unthinking.

R. M. T., NEW ORLEANS, LA.—The men who left the S. L. P. and went over to the S. P. are like the proletarians who throw their lot with bourgeois Movements. Of such proletarians Marx said they had nothing to expect but to share the defeats of their bourgeois allies. Ditto, ditto, the S. L. P. men who were suctioned off their base into the S. P. All they got for their pains is their share of the S. P. rout and disgrace. Chasers of will-o'-the-wisps ever are ditched.

E. H. S., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Give a wide berth to the man who calls The People "a knocker." Such a man is too much ashamed of what he is after to admit it, and yet would pursue it. What troubles such folks is that The People only deals in bull's-eyes.

J. A. L., PHOENIX, ARIZ.; H. R., HAMTRAMCK, MICH.; C. C. S., COLUMBUS, O.; W. R., CHICAGO, ILL.; F. G. M., ST. LOUIS, MO.; H. H. L., NEW HAVEN, CONN.; L. C. H., LOS ANGELES, CALIF.; S. R., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Matter received.

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